THE TRACK RECORD

INTERNATIONAL BIGFOOT SOCIETY

A SUBSIDIARY OF THE WESTERN BIGFOOT SOCIETY

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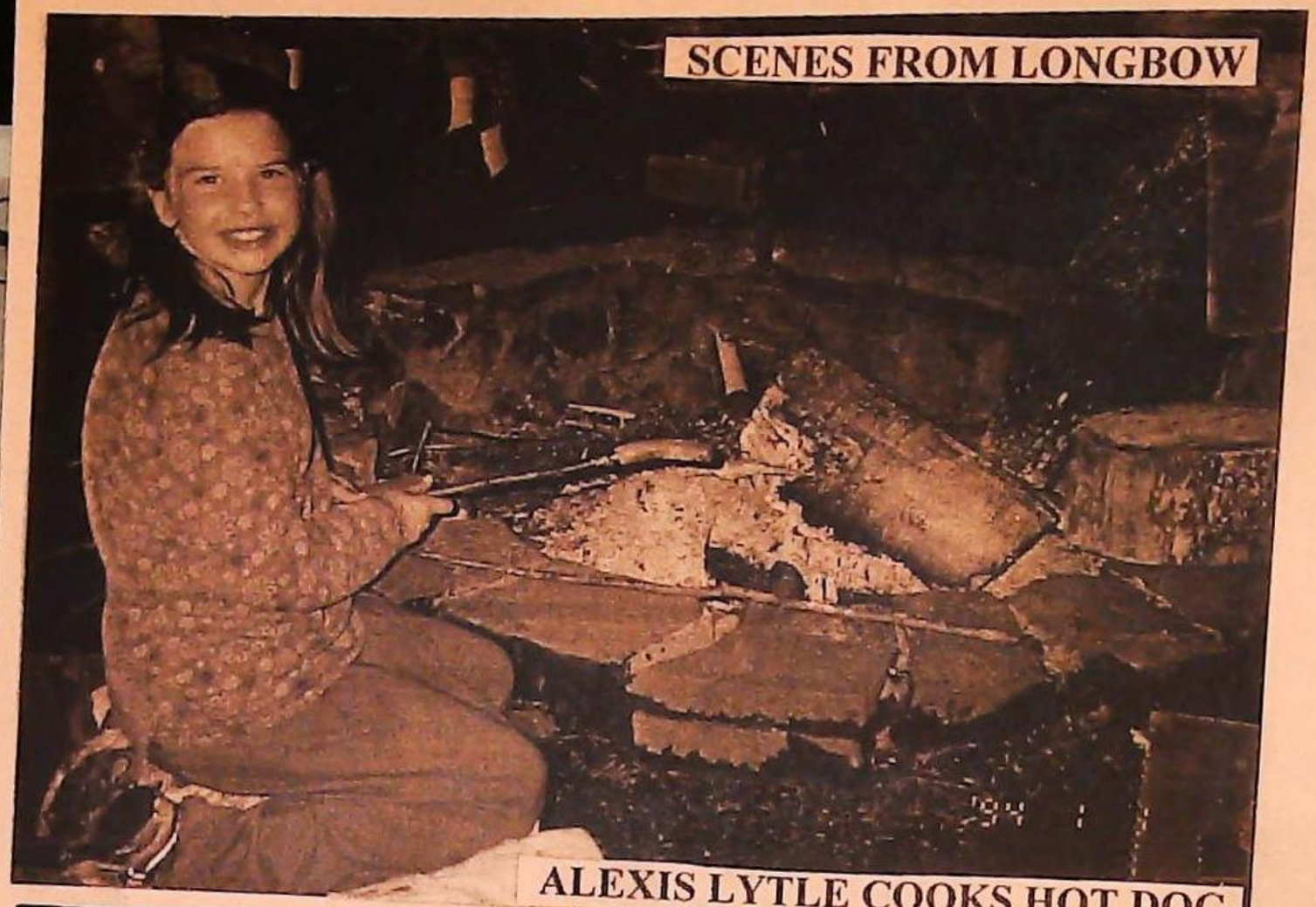
SCENES FROM LONGBOW

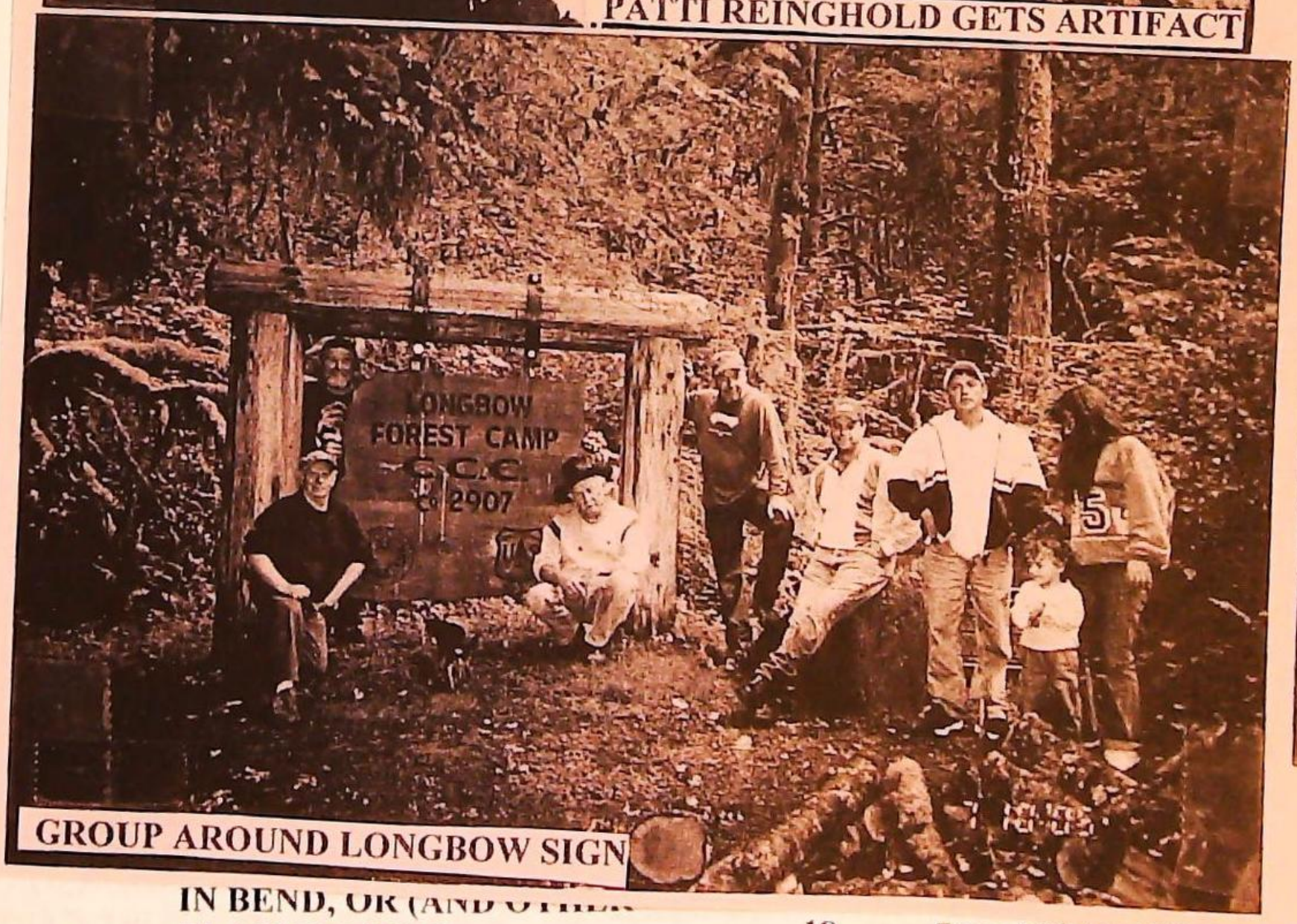


ALEXIS LYTLE COOKS HOT DOG

BIGFOOT MASK BY MONROE

PATTI REINGHOLD GETS ARTIFACT

RON ROSEMAN



GROUP AROUND LONGBOW SIGN

PATTI WITH
BIGFOOT T-SHIRT

IN BEND, OR (AND OTHER
PLACES) MENU

The Track Record

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Cover art by Paul A Smith, paul.smith7@comcast.net

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* REMEMBER...WE NEED YOUR CHANGE OF ADDRESS NOW... POST OFFICE THROWS AWAY BULK MAIL. Sorry, I can't replace if lost due to address change. Back order is possible.

MEETING

Monthly meetings will be at the Home Plate, 8501 N. Lombard, Portland. Dinner at 6PM and meet at 7PM, All invited. Free to the public (no indoor meeting in July, Aug., Nov. or Dec.). There will be a mini-museum and items will be for sale by owner Patti Dietz. Next meeting, Saturday Sept 24th.

MEETINGS

The July Pow Wow/Potlatch meeting, hosted by Vice President Patty Reinhold, was again a great success. The Longbow Campsite was a bit damp on July 10th and 11th, but visitors enjoyed the talks, the overnight stay, and just sitting around the campfire talking or eating hot dogs/marshmallows.

The Keynote speaker, M. K. Davis, had a splendid presentation...he is indeed a magical master of photography. He cut his teeth with some eight years of work with astrophotography, and clearly understood the nature of color in developed film.

The original Patterson film was obtained by Bruce Bonney and the late Rene Dahinden from American Nation Studios. Davis understood the meaning of fuzzy colors in the spectrum and resolved to correct the problem.

Besides numerous marks on the "Patty" body, Davis was able to locate things like the hinge in the middle of the foot which gave the creature limited grasping ability. Dr. Jeff Meldrum will do a scientific paper on that topic, based on the film.

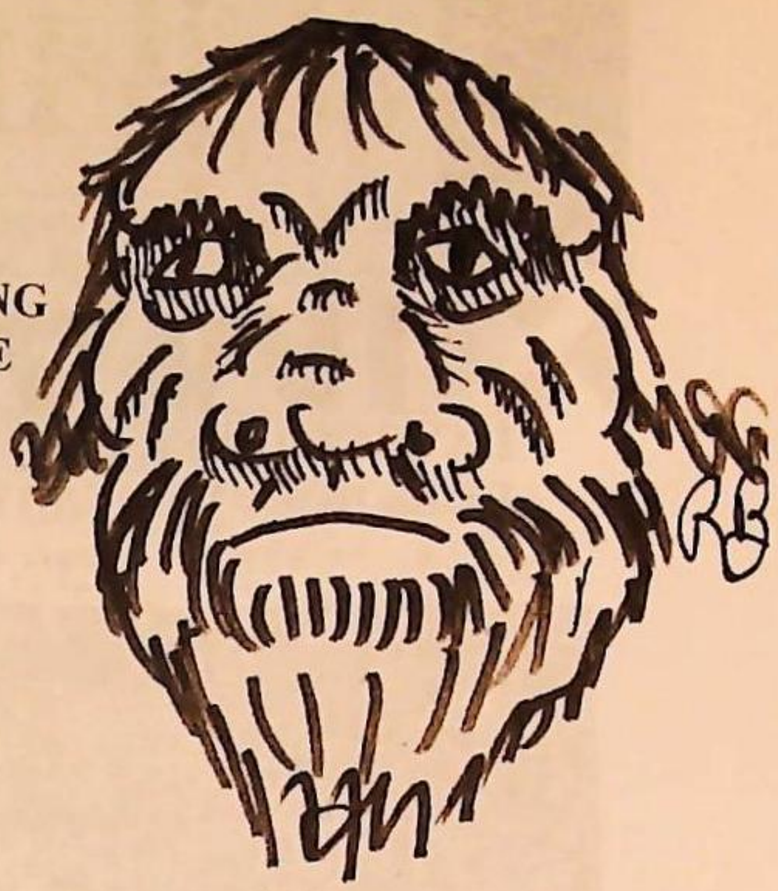
Davis also noted that the right breast had a possible third nipple, or a possible cancerous lump that wiggles.

Our thanks to M.K.Davis for traveling all the way out here from his home in Mississippi, and we hope he gets the chance to observe other films, like the Paul Freeman one, or even those recently shown at IBS meetings by Kewaunee Lapseritis.

* Neal Burgstahler had a really excellent film concerning "Orbs," the topic at the last few meetings of the IBS (Lapseritis and Powell). This film was so good that I've invited him to replay it at the September 24th meeting of the IBS at the Home Plate, so the rest of our members can see it (and he has agreed). The following is a prepared statement by Neal concerning the mysterious orbs:

In 1970, the U.S. Army was instructing ROTC cadets that the Bigfoot are people, are paranormal, are inter-dimensional, are phase changers that can change to large orbs, among other phases. The Bigfoot Orbs appear to exist in one of two possible dimensions, or are changing between those dimensions. They can be photographed in only one of those dimensions and while they are fading out of that dimension into a completely invisible dimension. Infra-red and white flash still photography can capture their images.With white flash photography, they can be seen with the unaided eye by looking over top of the flash unit.

When Bigfoot Orbs fly over a human Caller, they usually make only one pass at the most, do sound like a large electronic powered bumble bee and often make a single electronic snapping sound when overhead of the human observer. They then may or may not land in nearby woods. and make one or two audible steps where they may break branches as they phase change to a secondary or tertiary spirit stage. They appear to approach human Callers, by following a straight line towards alleged Bigfoot calls that were emitted. This occurs either at tree top level in heavy forests, in the trees in sparse forests or may follow nearby roadways at, at least 6 ft. off of the ground. They may fly right up to the faces of human observers, and may be the cause of sickening feelings that the observers may be overcome with.



USE YOUR SKEPTICALS WHEN READING ANY OF THESE REPORTS

The primary spirit stage here is considered the Orb phase. The secondary spirit phase is considered the phase where they are full size, invisible, weightless, may float, leave no footprints, flow through heavy brush with no noise, but we can hear twig and small branch breaking noise in a bipedal rhythm as they move. The tertiary spirit phase is considered the phase where they are full size, invisible, fairly heavy, may leave footprints, will make expected brush noise when traveling through it, will make loud footstep noises in a bipedal rhythm, and we may hear a warning type, heavy exhaled breathing.

M.K. DAVIS

The Orb phase explains: tracks that end, tracks that start, how they travel quickly and without visual detection, how they hibernate underground, why we cannot find them when there is not enough food or it is too cold and why we cannot find them during the daytime or during inclement nighttime weather. Bigfoot Orbs are about 12 inches plus in diameter. Bigfoot Orbs do not linger around human observers and are shy. The Orbs are intelligent and behave in an intelligent fashion.

Littlefoot sized Orbs are attracted to infra-red lights and play in their beam. They may be seen flashing off and entering another dimension, and then returning to the dimension that we are observing them from. They will seek to instantaneously reposition themselves on opposite sides of the IR light from the human observer, as the human shifts his lateral position. Littlefoot Orbs may linger around infra-red lights when human observers are present.> You can print this so that it is official. Neal Burgstahler

* Around the campfire we had several more speakers with interesting reports. Mainly, Don Monroe, visiting from eastern Idaho, who had plaster cast making demonstration materials. He also updated us on activity at the lava caves, and told of showing casts of broken toes and

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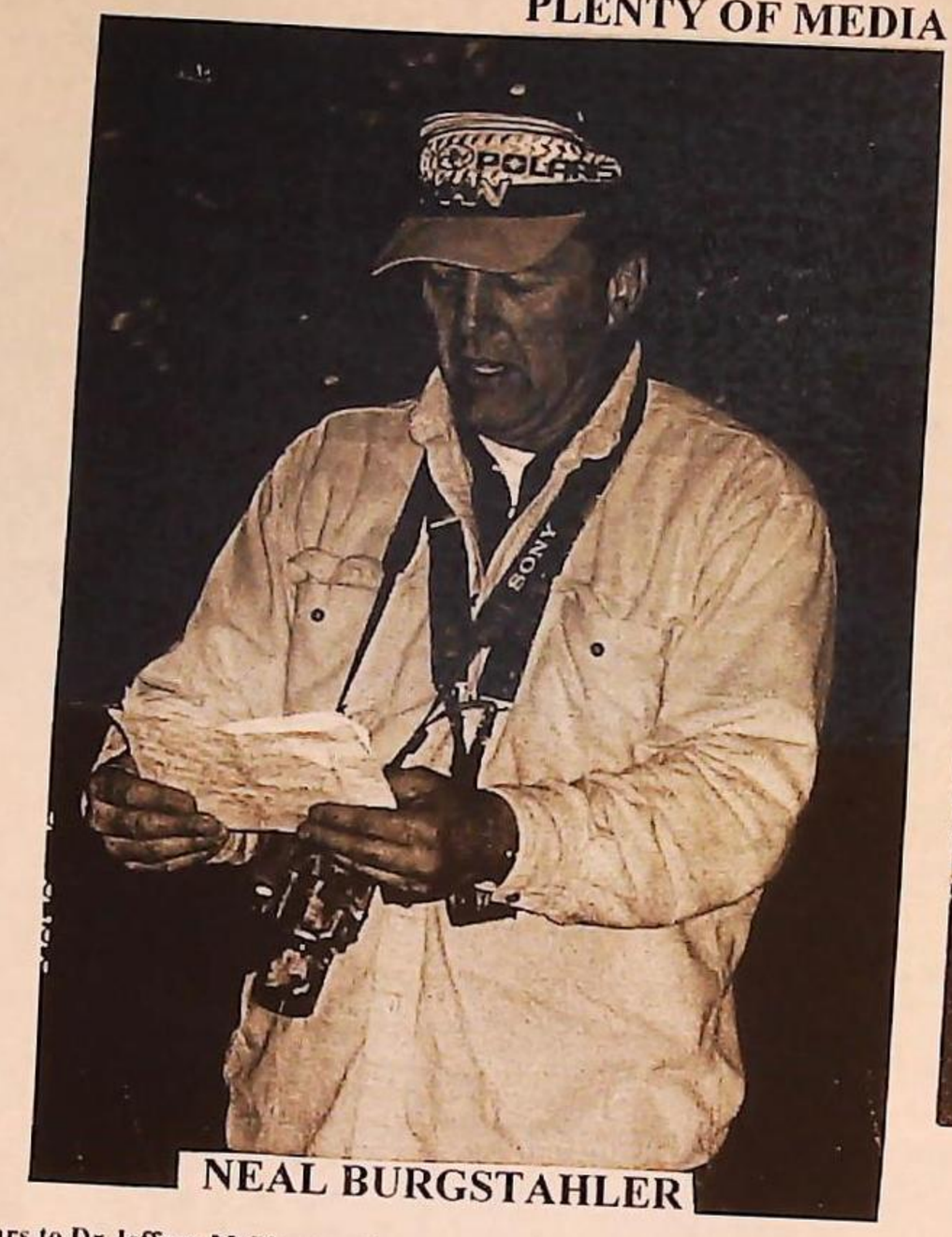
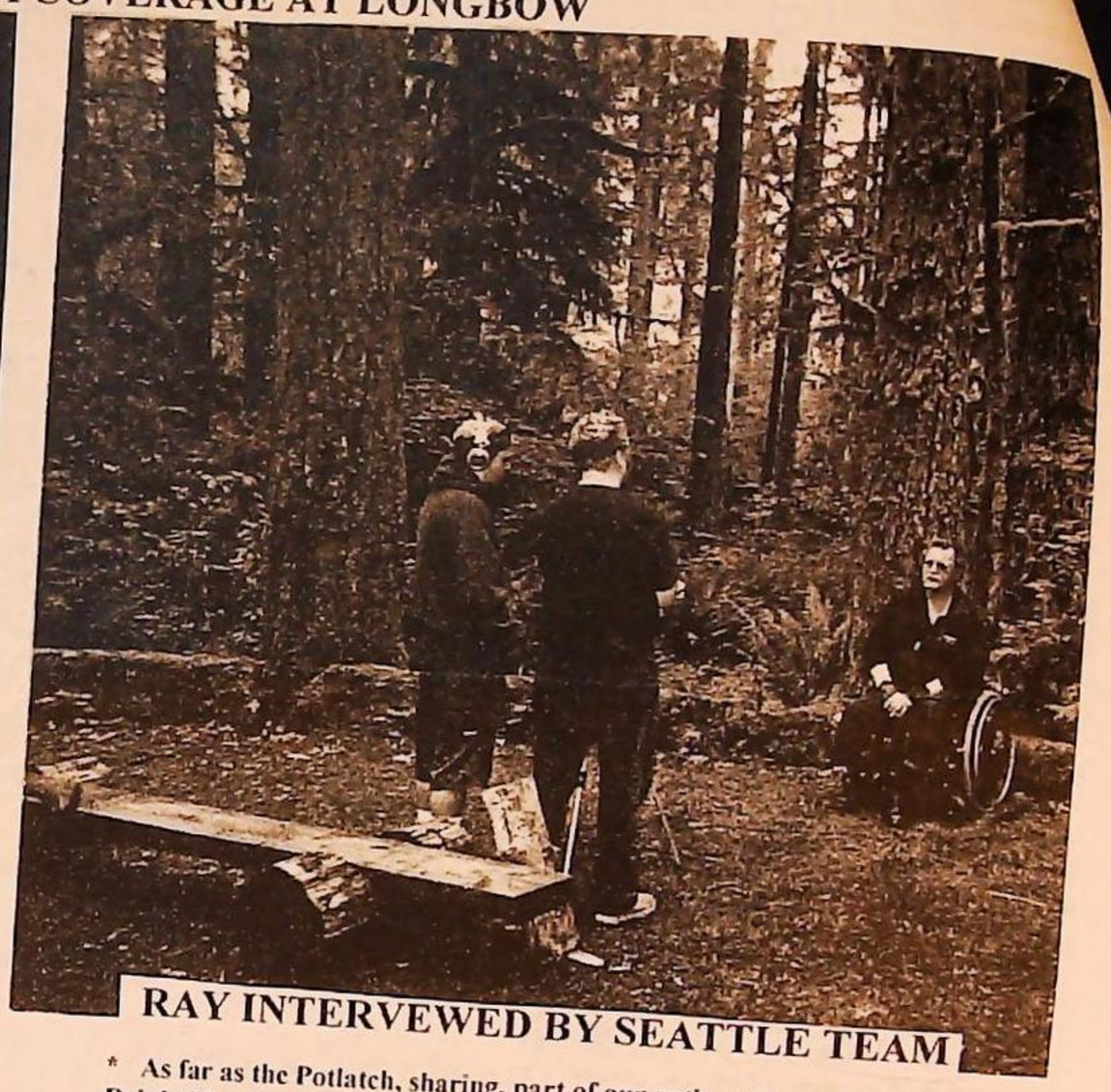
PLENTY OF MEDIA COVERAGE AT LONGBOW



NEAL BURGSTAHLER



RAY INTERVEWED BY SEATTLE TEAM

scars to Dr Jeffery Meldrum, who appeared impressed, and plans to visit this season to do some observations of his own. Don also says he plans to do a trek across northern Idaho, starting at Cour d Alene, and going east, looking at some of the areas covered in his first book (he actually went in mid August in company of Ronnie Roseman).

Don told of a female Bigfoot that apparently went from near Dubois, ID, to Camp, MT, where a letter told of a sighting in 2003, when a lady saw two in her yard along Medicine Lodge Creek. Saw the 7 footers last fall, and first though they were horses, but when turned saw their profile. They had been eating dog food in the yard and stayed 4-5 minuets, leaving only when she went out. The dogs wouldn't go out of house.

Don also told of a three week old report, prior to July 4th, near Salmon River country, Birch Creek near Kilgore, Idaho, two cowboys in a truck crossing a bridge, noticed to the west in the brush, a tall male hairy creature standing knee deep in the creek and urinating.

Ronnie Roseman also had a few words to add, and mostly it was in praise of recent Bigfooters taking a broader interest in Bigfoot activity and towards proving the existence of the creature; namely Dr Meldrum, M. K. Davis, and others.

"Chief" attended this year and retold of his 1945 incident with the creature where it came to his door (he was a kid then) at Canoga Park, CA. Mom hit the screen with a broom to chase the creature away from the terrified children.

Also, In 1961, near Leavenworth, WA, he was in a car with his brother, Dan Taylor, and they were followed by a creature that left hand and footprints on top of the car after the incident.

* As far as the Potlatch, sharing, part of our outing; I presented VP Patti Reinhold with a tomahawk of bone and beads, and a small mirror on the side. It represents your looking at your own worst enemy...yourself. The artifact was made by Roy Caddy, early Western Bigfoot Society Member.

Also, Don Monroe and Larry Bergstrom presented me with a souvenir knife emblazoned with an eagle, as a gift.

BIGFOOT ACTIVITY REPORTS

* Dennis Shimelin of western Oklahoma called to tell of a 1972 sighting in July or August on the Canadian River. His mother, Wanda, and himself, heard clapping in weeds in a cotton field. At the edge of the field there were a few old peach tres, and at 1PM mom and he sighted a screaming Bigfoot, 8 foot tall, short hair, skinny torso, legs short, looked like a bear. It had an erect sex organ as it walked toward them from two city blocks away (they could see "it" from two blocks? Wear skepticals). They held arms in the air and yelled, but it still came, its face like a black bear, and it ran a short distance towards them, but never bent over (like bear), stayed stiff like a board up back bone. It stayed of 15 minutes, hair like dog fur, hot, 100 degrees, bright sunlight. Another incident had migrant workers camped out, and all of a sudden left...left their possessions, and left the area without their paychecks.

* From : "debbie hycha" <debhycha@hotmail.com>
Subject : FW: strange things are a-foot

Haven't talked to you in a year. Here is a message from my sister again in the Yukon. She wants to get hold of you. Thanks..Debbie Hycha

From: "Carlene Hycha" 11July '05 TESLIN, YT
Canada (Teslin is near Whitehorse)

IN BEND, OR (AND
PLACES) MENU

18. Formerly Western Bigfoot Society

Wednesday, July 13, 2005
The New Era

Bigfoot believers compare notes at annual campout at Longbow

By Sean C. Morgan
Of The New Era

A small group gathered around a Mississippi man and his computer inside the shelter at Longbow Campground last weekend.

The computer drew power through an extension cord reaching through a drizzly summer afternoon to an inverter connected to a new Volkswagen Beetle.

M.K. Davis, of Mississippi, was busy demonstrating what is usually referred to as the "Patterson film" of Bigfoot. He has spent about eight years enhancing a copy of the film and isolating images that show the tiniest details he says prove that the subject in the film was not a man in a suit.

The Patterson film, made in 1967, is the most publicized film depicting a purported Bigfoot, according to numerous Web sites. That film has also been the subject of continuous controversy.

Critics claim the film was a hoax. Some individuals have come forward claiming to be the person in the suit. Bigfoot hunters claim those men are the real hoax — that the film shows a real Bigfoot. Various Web sites expound upon details both sides of the debate try to use to substantiate their positions. Images showing what either side contend is true seem rare.

Bigfoot from the Patterson film.

Davis has put a face to those explanations and gone further using modern technology to improve the third- and fourth-generation copies of the films the general public has seen for years.

Davis won the "Crypto Finding of the Year" award in 2004 at the Southern Crypto Conference for his work. He presented his findings at the event in June 2004. He presented them again to the International Bigfoot Society last weekend.

The Society members camped out from July 9-11 at Longbow Organizational Campground, the organization's second annual campout held in the Sweet Home area. Approximately 26 persons attended the event, including half a dozen Sweet Home area residents, among them IBFO Vice President Patti Reinhold.

"That young lady on the wall," Kathleen Spillman Saunier said, explaining why she was participating. She gestured to a wall-sized print Davis had made of the Patterson Bigfoot, a female.

"That's definitely a lady there," Spillman Saunier said.

Davis is an amateur astrophotographer, which gave him "a background in specialty uses for film," he said. When he saw the Patterson film, he noticed it suffered from a "chromatic aberration."

"I knew that instant that the film could be fixed," Davis said. The problem was caused by the camera lens, and it caused some of the colors to be out of focus. Davis isolated the colors in the film that were in focus to help sharpen the film.

In one set of images Davis shows, played in sequence, the Patterson Bigfoot's calf muscle tightens as it moves. In another set, sequenced images show muscles rippling in the Bigfoot's back as it walks.

• See **Bigfoot**...P. 7

In yet another, the movement of the creature's foot corroborates a prediction by Idaho State University professor Jeff Meldrum, who holds a Ph.D.,in anatomy, evolutionary morphology, primatology and paleantolgoy.

"This foot alone is enough to make science take another look at this film," Davis said. "It can actually grasp the ground. It has limited grasping capability."

Meldrum had predicted such mid-foot flexibility, a trait impossible for the human foot to duplicate, Davis said. Bigfoot walks on the ball and heel of its foot, allowing it to move quickly and sure-footedly through rough terrain, depiste its mass.

"This is not something a hoaxer would do," Davis said. It is not a detail a hoaxer would think to include, and it shows in a relatively tiny portion of the film.

"I'd bet my life on this," Davis said. "It's not a suit. Scientists need to revisit this film, unless they just don't care."

Outside of his work on the Bigfoot mystery, Davis works at a chemical plant, making ammonia.

Four-time author Don Monroe, a full-time crypto-explorer and crypto-anthropologist, also gave a presentation during the campout.

"I've been doing this for 50 years," said Monroe, of Idaho He appears on Artists First Radio Network several times a year and mounts numerous expeditions to track Bigfoot and find evidence, such as hair and DNA.

Hair samples he has found have been tagged as primate or unknown carnivore by scientists, he said. French lab scientists are puzzled by DNA samples he procured on cotton swabs.

The DNA samples show only a 'Y' chromosome, no 'X,' Monroe said, and "the scientists don't know how to handle it."

Monroe's first encounter with Bigfoot was in 1949, 18 years before the Patterson film, he said. He heard vocalizations, terrible noises in the night, and witnessed something bipedal ripping a sheep apart, limb from limb.

"It was 40 years again before I heard that noise again the same way," Monroe said. He also saw a Bigfoot

run for about 100 yards on top of a rocky ridge at Mt. Index, Wash.

"I've got evidence that'd boggle your mind," Monroe said.

"I'm not trying to prove anything," he said. "It's either there or not — I know it is there. There's enough evidence to prove it."

Scientists are afraid of their peers, Monroe said. "They can't prove what we're proving. They hate (people) like us who come up with things they can't put in their textbooks."

Bigfoot also threatens religion, Monroe said. Bigfoot is more like a human than an animal. Its movement is similar to a human's; and its hair is thinner, like a human."

Proving they are hairy hominids instead of apes would tend to support Darwinian ideas, he said, although not precisely Darwin's theories.

The forests are vast, and much of it is hardly traveled by humans at all, Monroe said. People tend to stay in their cities and rarely venture out where the Bigfoot lives.

Dan Taylor of Sweet Home was camping out with his friends Bob and Pattie Reinhold at the event. He, like many at the campout, has not encountered a Bigfoot.

He is cautious about whether he believes Bigfoot wanders the woods of the Northwest. He points out that mountain lions are common, "but have you ever seen one?"

He and five friends had an odd encounter with something above Foster Lake at Lost Dog Rock, he said. Shooting off some fireworks, they heard a group of something scramble through the woods, like a man would run, scrambling through slash piles much faster than any man could do it.

They were all night blind from the fireworks and didn't see anything.

"People looked at us like we were nuts," Taylor said. "I don't know what it was, but I've not seen or heard anything like it before or since."

Larry Bergstrom of Sweet Home said he has never encountered a Bigfoot, but he did have friends on High Deck who lost a dog, presumably to a Bigfoot. Their dog went over a landing after hearing some funny noises. They attempted to put their headlights over the edge but got high-

M.K. Davis shows his work enhancing the Patterson film. Larry Bergstrom of Sweet Home looks on in the background. Behind them is a print of the Bigfoot from the film.

centered.

They called out for the dog then returned to their home about a mile and a half away, Bergstrom said. The dog never returned home.

"They don't talk much about because they don't know what it was," Bergstrom said. He believes it was a Bigfoot.

Ronnie Roseman was at the campout promoting a DVD he produced last year, The Skunk Ape: Florida's Bigfoot. More information can be found at www.shaawanoki.com.

Further information can be found at numerous web sites on the Internet. Among them are www.isu.edu/bios/Professors_Staff/meldrum_d.htm, www.skepdic.com, www.oregonbigfoot.com, wwwinternationalbigfootsociety.com and www.bfro.net.

Oregonbigfoot.com lists 20 Bigfoot encounters in Linn County, including several in the Sweet Home area.

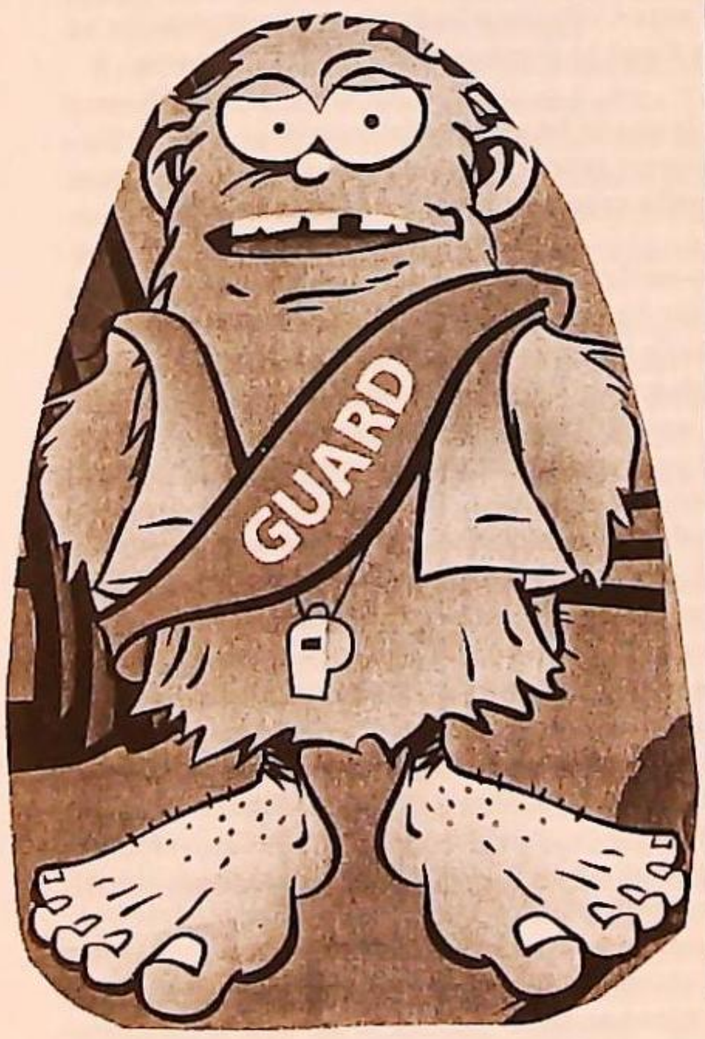
BABY SASQUATCH

Big feet and a big heart, this young friend is devoted to keeping everyone safe. Probably because he's so good at tripping.

Photos by Sean C. Morgan

Don Monroe shows castings of hand prints. Monroe, an Idaho resident, has been researching Bigfoot for 50 years.

LOCAL FAST FOOD REATAURANT FEATURES SASQUARCH IN THEIR KID MEALS



DON MONROE

"CHIEF"

There was another sighting here. More than one person saw it at different times the same night. People went walking in the bush to see if they could find any evidence. They found hair. I just saw it this afternoon, and smelt it too. Phew it stinks really bad. It is quite long-about 5 inches, black and slightly wavy. The hair is fine, not bearlike, but almost like thick human hair. It is attached to pieces of tufts, the type that ball up on a dog's ass, and it's brown.

Some of the guys who saw it said that it circled Tod's house 4 times. Kim (a mother of twins who lives up the street from my old place in town) was told about it, and listened out her window and heard crashing around in the bush. This is within about a kilometer of where it was spotted last year too. The guys who saw it are well known to me for many years, who would not have group hallucinations, as beer is their drug of choice. I've seen them very drunk, and know that they are of sound mind when they are sober. Given how petrified George was last year, he wouldn't make it up. Robin is crossing her fingers that this may be what finally keeps him on the wagon. Gross, I can't get that stench out of my nose, and I want to wash my hands, as I held that hair in my fingers.

Anyhoo, Debbie what was the name of that institute you had email me last year? They should DNA test the hair before the officials get hold of it and say it comes from a molting moose or something...
Carlene Hycha >Teslin Tlingit Council

* (Continuiation of above at Teslin) William S. ,12 Jul 2005, 100 miles south of Whitehorse

This past Saturday (7/9) about 2 am, our time, 7 people which include three teens say they seen him run around a house that they were watching TV at, twice, then they tried to follow it but couldn't. The hair came from where they said that it rolled in the grass. Some people think that it belongs to a bear.

* "debbie hycha" Hi Ray, I was just casually speaking to a man outside here waiting for my boyfriend to show up from work.
This guy grew up in this area. He knows the Indians around here and says there are a few Sasquatches around.(Mission B.C. area) He knows a friend of his that saw one, freaked out, and took off in his boat and stayed the night in the middle of the water, too scared to return to his camp. He told me of himself smelling that ugly smell.

Also someone here on Gibsons Island saw a few of them in the bushes in the middle of nowhere? There was a young one with them. He /she? got scared off because it saw a human. He said all of a sudden there were four Sasquatchs protecting their young. The guy saw 4 of them in total in one spot. Also he told me one of the Indians up the road here shot at one once. Here in Mission, not there on the Island.

He told me the Japanese have DNA of hair and things but they need blood. I told him they should use a sedating gun, but really who the heck carries one of those with them? They were out for moose. Anyway he was telling me that all the Japanese need to " Clone " this primate is blood? I think just leave them be myself.

Also he has seen Sasquatch nests? On the ground made of branches? He said if you duck down low that beneath the bushes you can see better than standing up? He also said that That's what sasquatches do to see what is coming near? They lay on the ground to their side and watch. Because there is a better clearing. I really don't think this guy was pulling my leg on his stories. He truly believes they are out there, just intelligent enough to try to stay away of danger.

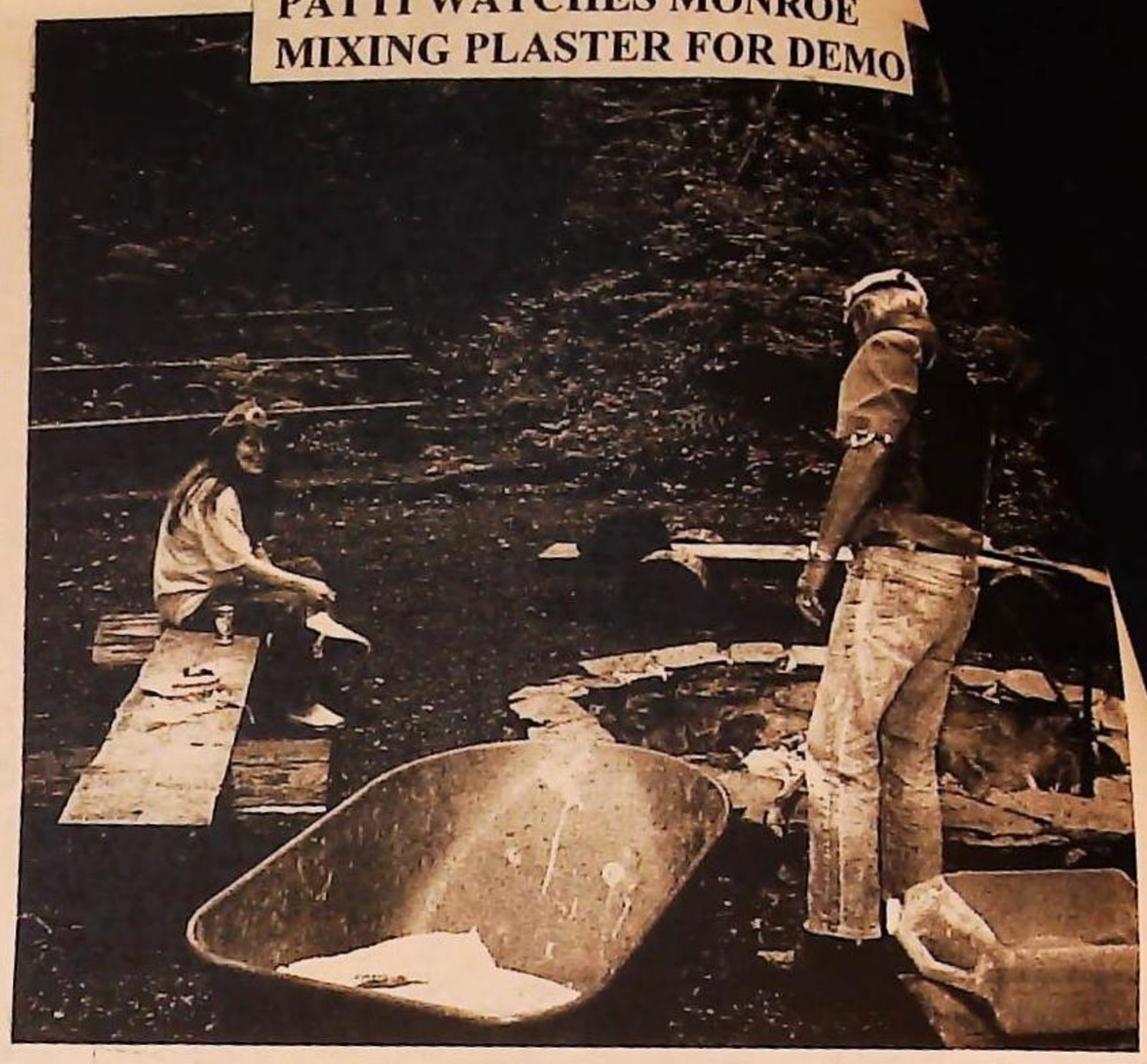
He also told me of a bush man he knows that has run into them in the area? I thought this conversation was quite strange. A lot of people don't want to talk about the unknown but he was pretty open about it. He is helping us fix our boat right now and seems pretty down to earth.

Anyway just a bit more on what people tell me and the TV and newspapers. Have a good day..Debbie One last thing, The Indian bar here is called " The Sasquatch Inn" !! Its been here for some time, I know nothing of what you know about this area too? But thought it was interesting to say the least.
(Note...sent her a copy of Rob Alley's book on the Raincoast Sasquatch)

* Debbie Hycha. I was listening to the news today on the radio. (CBC) It now has reported that this hair that was found was in fact Bison. (Some joker could have gave them a tuft for a joke?)

It doesn't explain though why people have the foot prints in pictures, and hear the creature, and what I have heard first hand from my sister? It doesn't explain the thrashing around in bushes--a Bison would not make such a print? Yes maybe a tuft of hair someone found for proof, as a spoof? But I really don't think a bison would tear away at the trees and bushes? Let alone circling the house (Tods house) . The stories now are getting deranged. Too many people flocking to this little community? I am sure the news article will be in the " Vancouver Sun" again tomorrow, or " The Province?" Still saving articles for you and telling you what I hear on the radio. Thanks, Have a good day, Debbie.

PATTI WATCHES MONROE MIXING PLASTER FOR DEMO



* "Michael Newton" <eyeofnewt@att.net> More on DNA testing of alleged Sasquatch hair From the Edmonton Journal: 27 July 2005
CSI Bigfoot a real-life whatwuzit U of A scientists using DNA tests to prove source of 'sasquatch' hair sample By Bill Mah EDMONTON - Sometime today or Thursday, David Coltman will speak. And the world will listen. You haven't heard of David Coltman? Perhaps you've been living in the same rugged Yukon woods that hide a dark mystery on which Coltman is shining the hard light of genetic science. Coltman is the associate professor of biology at the University of Alberta who is testing a tuft of coarse, chocolate-coloured hair plucked from the forest floor near Teslin, Yukon, near where several people earlier this month heard, or saw, what they swear was a legendary sasquatch.

A wildlife technician with the Yukon Environment Department recently pronounced it more bison than bigfoot. Coltman, a wildlife geneticist, then offered his research team's services for free to provide a more definitive analysis. The envelope, marked sasquatch sample, arrived in his lab on Monday. Since then, journalists from CBS News, the Los Angeles Times, Reuters, Canada AM and others are lining up to interview him. "It seems silly doesn't it?" says Coltman who is funded by the Alberta government's Ingenuity Fund to create a centre of excellence in the study of population biology.

"It's a real surprise. I thought it would be of some interest. But I was kind of floored by the level of interest across North America. I mean, I wasn't looking for a bunch of media exposure here. I just felt this would be kind of fun."

Coltman says he's not a crypto-zoologist, but a serious scientist who expects some good will come of the hoopla if it helps educate people about genetics -- not to mention his team's usual research, which involves tracking the bloodlines of animals such as bighorn sheep to examine how herds are genetically linked. It would allow scientists to predict how changes in land use might affect animal populations.

"For example, if you build a pipeline, is it likely to separate a genetically continuous herd or are those herds genetically distinct?" His usual work never attracts this much interest, but the methodology is routine.

The roots of about 10 hairs were removed, put in a tube and the DNA extracted with a chemical solution. He and his team will then compare the order of the mitochondrial genes with the known sequences of other creatures contained in massive databases. "You can never say something is 100 per cent true in science," Coltman says. "You just try to eliminate all of the alternatives. I suspect if this comes from a bison, we'll have a pretty certain match with a bison.

"Use your imagination here and if it really is a bipedal primate living in North America, its closest relatives will probably be other bipedal primates such as humans or chimpanzees or gorillas. So the DNA sequence, in theory, should most closely resemble human or chimpanzee DNA rather than something like bison or bear."

Teslin, where sasquatch sightings are the talk of the town, people are ...nistic, says resident Roger Smarch. "I looked at the hair myself and ...eems kind of long to be even bison hair, like it wasn't curly or ...ything," Smarch says. His uncle, a longtime guide, told him it was too ...ng to be bear hair. Whatever Coltman's findings, Smarch says he will ...till believe there is something strange stalking his community of 400.

He was there when his cousin, Trent Smarch, found the hair on the ground. Roger has also heard what he says sounds like a creature crashing through the bush. He later found crushed meadow flowers and small trees snapped in half more than two metres up their trunks. He also discovered a track in the hardpacked dirt. "It looks like a human footprint, but it's probably about size 17 at least."

Coltman says he may know the results by today, but may not make an announcement until Thursday to better handle the logistics of an expected media tumult. He understands why a tuft of strange hair could pull in so many people. "I think there's something about these mysteries that really appeals to people, something about the idea that we don't know everything. That there's something out there that we don't know about," Coltman says. "They like to believe that may be the case and maybe there's a little bit of CSI Bigfoot here too, if you know what I mean."

* "Ben Blake" <danegeld2@msn.com>
Government investigating bush creature sightings
Sun, 17 Jul 2005 By Chuck Tobin

Another reported incident of a sasquatch seen in Teslin last weekend is being looked into by staff from the Department of Environment.

Teslin conservation officer John Klein said Wednesday he received eyewitness accounts of something weird in the woods at about 2:30 a.m. last Sunday. He is planning to do follow-up interviews with those who say saw something.

"It was not until the following morning at daybreak on Sunday morning that people started investigating what they saw, and that is when a print was found and a sample of hair," Klein explained.

He said by the time he got involved and was shown the location of the print, the area in question had been disturbed quite a bit by the numerous people who wanted to see what some believe is evidence of Big Foot. By the time Klein saw the print, there were no distinct features like the outlines of toes or such, but those who saw it initially say it was quite a bit more foot-like before the area was heavily visited. The print, he said, measured 43 centimetres (17 inches) in length and 11.5 cm (4.5 inches) in width.The tuft of hair collected will be sent for analysis to Philip Merchant, the department's laboratory specialist in Whitehorse. Doug Larsen, chief of the wildlife management branch, said this morning it should be relatively straightforward to determine if the hair comes from a common local animal like a bear. If the analysis is inconclusive, however, it may be that the sample would have to be subject to further scrutiny, such as a DNA test, he explained.

Larsen said DNA testing can be very expensive if it's intensive enough to identify a specific person for forensic purposes. But having a DNA test simply to determine if the hair is human or not, for instance, should also be relatively straightforward, he said.

Eyewitnesses to the incident could not be reached this week. Many were attending the annual general meeting of the Teslin Tlingit Council. Klein said reports indicate about nine people saw what they maintain was a sasquatch-type figure. In much the same way one would expect a neighborhood to react to a bear sighting in the area, kids were cleared from the street and the area known as Smarchville was on the alert, he explained.

The report of a sighting comes a year after a similar report last June by two area residents who swear they saw something Big-Foot like cross their paths in the early morning. Conservation officer David Bakica said back then he was convinced upon interviewing the two adults locals – both familiar with wildlife – that they were shaken up by whatever they saw.

* "Michael Newton" <eyeofnewt@att.net> DNA test for Yukon "Bigfoot" hair From the London (Ontario) Free Press: 22 July 2005
Bigfoot under microscope WHITEHORSE -- A University of Alberta scientist is offering to run a DNA test on what some believe is a sample of sasquatch hair found in the Yukon.The sample is heading to Edmonton after a Yukon Environment Department laboratory technician who analyzed the tuft said results suggest it's likely from a bison. Philip Merchant compared a print of the hair's scale pattern with those of other creatures. The results were not entirely conclusive, though, said Dennis Senger, the department's communications co-ordinator. "(Merchant) is being a scientist," he said. "He's not 100 per cent sure, so he doesn't want to say anything conclusive." But Merchant maintains the hair appears to be bison, not the mythical furry creature. "I have not seen anything to lead me in another direction," he said. Merchant said there are still many unknowns about the origins of the sample, found at Teslin, near the B.C. border. There is no way of knowing how the sample ended up there, whether it blew there or was placed there by human hand. David Coltman, associate professor of biology at the University of Alberta, contacted Merchant about the sample this week. Merchant accepted his offer to conduct a DNA analysis on the sample. The test will involve extracting DNA from cells in the roots of the hairs. These cells will be taken from the mitochondria, the energy-producing part of a cell, because it evolves much more quickly.It is also easier to isolate mitochondrial DNA than DNA in the nucleus of the cell, Coltman explained yesterday. Once the DNA sequence is prepared, it will then be run through a database of all known creatures. "If it truly is sasquatch DNA, it will probably not match anything," Coltman said. "It should most closely resemble human or gorilla."

The results should be complete within a week, he said. The investigation was sparked by a sasquatch sighting about a week ago, when up to nine witnesses said they saw a creature roaming about in the woods in Teslin. A footprint and the hair sample were found at one of the sightings. About a year ago, two local adults also said they spotted a sasquatch-like figure as it crossed their path early one morning. Last fall, a Manitoba man came forward with what he claimed was video footage of a sasquatch or bigfoot. He sold it to an American tabloid TV program, but a sasquatch "expert" dismissed it as bogus.
(Note: results confirmed Bison bison hair. Suspect it was windblown as report seems to be genuine, Ray)

* "Bryan K. Beets" Subject : Questions/Comments from The Royal Forum Website, 17 Jul 2005
Patricia, Thank you for your report.
I am copying a variety of people within this field of research. Specifically, BFRO, International Bigfoot Society, PA Bigfoot Society, and a couple of independent researchers. A two week old sighting is very recent and considering it was raining I think it would be worth investigating the area. Can anyone dispatch a team to investigate tracks in this area that Patricia reported? Keith can you report this to the BFRO? Everyone should be aware and investigate this report. Please follow up with me on the progress. Bryan K. Beets, Editor, The Royal Forum
---- Original Message ----
From: "The Royal Forum"<sqtalent@sbcglobal.net>
Name: Patricia K., Richmond, VA. Report from off I-895, Varina, VA

Two weeks ago I took some teenagers and my son to go to the Indian burial grounds where I like to go, sometimes taking pictures, sometimes just going on the property and sit. Earlier in the night there had been a big storm, the road was still wet and muddy. The road is at least 1 mile or better, several curves with creeks. As I was coming around the last curve very slowly because of all the deer. We smelled this very bad strong smell. Like going on a fishing pier where people are cleaning fish. I started looking and then all of a sudden I see this large thing squatting down at the creek, we sat there for a few minutes quietly, suddenly it got up and started coming up the small hill.

I had with me, my 17 yr. old son, his 19 yr. old girl friend and another 19 yr old friend of my son as well as his brother. We all saw it.

We looked back and he was in the middle of the road. we went to the end of the road, and turned around; we waited a few minutes hoping he was gone. We went back down and he had gone back to the creek.

I've been going to this place since June of 2002, the thought of a bigfoot never entered my mind and all of a sudden it did. I've smelled the smell before but it still did not register. I would like to see him again and someone suggested I go there and leave A large jar of peanut butter would this be wise?

(Note: Bill Dranganis is investigating...thanks for the lead Bryan)

* Eric Altman, Penn BF Soc report. Jun 18, dog released outside, sits at edge of woods. Catches partially eaten apple thrown at it by ape like figure, dark in color standing in the trees. Appeared 6.5 ft tall, covered with dark hair.

* (Use Skepticals please) DWAYNE Yancey
1217 Jacob Lane Fernley, NV 89408
775-835-6745 dwayne2222@netzero.net
Can you contact: Yes Can you publish: yes
Date: 06-01-05,: 1am

I was on the Truckee River by Furnley, Nevada, and was camping. And about 1 am I was awaken by the loudest sound you can ever believe.

MISCELANEOUS

* Andreas.Trottmann@babs.admin.ch Swimmers insured for £1m against Loch Ness monster bites. Martin Wainwright, July 6, 2005
The Guardian. One of the world's most famous fables faces a serious financial test in two weeks' time when 100 international athletes plunge into Loch Ness - each insured for £1m against monster bites.

A hefty but undisclosed premium has been paid by organizers of Scotland's biggest triathlon in case the swimming stage of the event tempts the mysterious (and possibly non-existent) creature from the lake's depths. Teams from five countries are taking part in the event and organizers, who also manage the Great North Run in Newcastle upon Tyne, are worried about health and safety consequences if the monster strikes or tries to join in. "With so many top athletes in the water of Loch Ness at one time, we couldn't take the risk of one of them being attacked by Nessie," said David Hart of the firm Nova International.

"The competitors will all be very psyched up and very driven, so there's going to be a lot of noise and a lot of splashing going on, just the sort of thing that might annoy a prehistoric lake monster. Or even worse, give it an appetite." The swimming stage of the race, the Visit Scotland Adventure Triathlon, will see athletes swim twice round Urquhart Bay, the setting for many of the most famous sightings and photographs of the alleged beast. The race also takes in an 11.8 mile afternoon bike section and an evening run along a 6.2 mile mountain trail. Not everyone welcomes the insurance deal, though. The official Loch Ness Monster Fan Club took exception to the suggestion that Nessie would attack anyone - however much they splashed.
The club's chairman, Gary Campbell, said: "Everyone knows she is friendly; she has been present in the loch for centuries and never hurt a soul in all that time. "If she wanted to get involved in the race, though, that would be another matter. Through her knowledge of the loch, she'd beat everyone. She might even continue on land and finish the competition, though I doubt that." The insurance cover will include accidental damage from the monster nipping human competitors or shoving them aside if she, or he, does decide to join in.

David Parker, the head of commercial insurance at NIG, the firm providing the policy, said: "From an insurance perspective, this is a very unusual risk and a lot of insurers wouldn't want to deal with it."
Claimants, he said, would have to provide definite proof that the monster was responsible. Best regards from Switzerland! Andreas Trottmann, Route de la Crausa 16, 1566 St-Aubin FR

* Yahoo News, Neanderthal Genome May Be Reconstructed, July 6, '05, credit: Ben Blake German and U.S. scientists have launched a project to reconstruct the Neanderthal genome, the Max-Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology said Wednesday. The project, which involves isolating genetic fragments from fossils of the prehistoric beings who originally inhabited Europe, is being carried out at the Leipzig-based institute. "The project is very new and is just at its beginning," said Sandra Jacob, a spokeswoman for the institute.

U.S. geneticist Edward Rubin, from the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in Berkeley, Calif., is also participating in the project.
In an interview with the German weekly Die Zeit, Rubin said the research would amount to more than just a spectacular display of science.

"Firstly, we will learn a lot about the Neanderthals. Secondly, we will learn a lot about the uniqueness of human beings. And thirdly, it's simply cool," Rubin said.Neanderthals were replaced by modern humans in Europe only between 40,000 and 30,000 years ago.

• Courtesy Dr. Dodds, Canada In yet another tale Roberts collected in Kentucky (Roberts, 1957) 26, the creature, "The Hairy Woman," is not specifically named:

One time I's prowling in the wilderness, wandering about, kindly got lost and so weak and hungry I couldn't go. When it begin to get cool, I found a big cave and crawled back in there to get warm. Crawled back in and come upon a leaf bed and I dozed off to sleep. I heard a nawful racket coming into that cave, and something come in and crawled right over me and laid down like a big old bear. It was a hairy thing and when it laid down it went chomp, chomp, chawing on something, I thought to myself, "I'll see what it is and find out what it is eating."

I reached over and a hairylike woman was there eating chestnuts, had about a half a bushel there. I got me a big handful of them and went to chawing on them too. Well, in a few minutes she handed me over another big handful, and I eat chestnuts until I was kindly full and wasn't hungry any more. D'rectly she got up and took off and out of sight.

Well, I stayed on there till next morning and she come in with a young deer. Brought it in and with her big long fingernails she ripped its hide and skinned it, and then she sliced the good lean meat and handed me a bite to eat. I kindly slipped it behind me, afraid to eat it raw and afraid not to eat it being she give it to me. She'd cut off big pieces of deer meat and eat it raw. Well, I laid back and the other pieces she give over eat her'n. She was goin' to see I didn't starve. When she got gone built me up a little far and br'iled my meat. After being hungry for two or three days, it was good cooked – yes, buddy. She come in I had my far built. She couldn't understand because it kindly burnt little. She jumped back and looked at me like she was going to run through me. I said, "Uh-oh, I'm going to get in trouble now."

Well, it was cold and bad out, so I just stayed another night with her. She was a woman but was right hairy all over. After several days I learnt her how to br'ile meat and that far would burn her. She got shy of the far and got so she liked br'iled meat and wouldn't eat it raw no more. We went on throught the winter that way. She would go out and carry in deer and bear. So I lived there about two year, and when we had a little kid, one side of it was hairy and the other side was slick.

I took a notion I would leave there and go back home. I begin to build me a boat to go away across the lake in. One time after I had left, I took a notion I would slip back and see what she was doing. I went out to the edge of the clift and looked down into the mountain, and it looked like two or three dozen hairy people coming up the hill. They was all pressing her and she would push them back. They wanted to come on up and come in. I was scared to death, afraid they's going to kill me. She made them go back and wouldn't let them come up and interfere.

Well I took a notion to leave one day when my boat was ready. I told her one day I was going to leave. She follered me down to my boat and watched me get ready to go away. She was crying, wanting me to stay. I said, "No, I'm tired of the jungles. I'm going back to civilisation again, going back."

When she knowed she wasn't going to keep me there, she just grabbed the little young'un and tore it right open with her nails. Throwed me the hairy part and she kept the slick side. That's the end of that story.

• 27 Dorson, 1959, American Folklore, p. 130-131; Dorson, 1975, Folktales Told Around the World, p. 485-487.
(Another from Dr Dodds)

A number of stories also come from South America. One such tale is about the Sisemite, "a monster that lives in the forest. He is taller than the tallest man and in appearance he is between a man and a monkey." The story, collected by G.B. Gordon (1915), was told by a Guatemalan women who had the story from her grandmother: A young couple, recently married, went to live in a hut in the woods on the edge of the milpa in order that they might harvest the maize. On the road Rosalia stepped on a thorn and next morning her foot was so sore that she was unable to help Felipe with the harvesting, so he went out alone, leaving one of their two dogs with her. He had not been working long when the dreaded feeling which he recognized as Sisemite shivers, took hold of him and he hastily returned to the hut to find his wife gone and the dog in a great fright. He immediately set out for the village, but met on the road the girl's parents, who exclaimed, "You have let the Sisemite steal our child, our feelings have told us so." He answered, "It is as you say." The case was taken up by the authorities and investigated. The boy was cross-examined, but always answered, "The Sisemite took her, no more than that I know." He was, in spite of the girl's parents' protests, suspected of having murdered his young wife, and was thrown in jail, where he remained many years.

At last a party of hunters reported having seen on Mount Kacharul a curious being with hairy
body and flowing locks that fled at the sight of them. A party was organized which went out with the object of trying to capture this creature at any cost. Some days later this party returned with what seemed to be a wild woman, of whom the leader reported as follows. "On Mount Kacharul we hid in the bushes. For two days we saw nothing, but on the third day about noon this creature came to the brook to drink and we captured her, though she struggled violently. As we were crossing the brook with her, a Sisemite appeared on the hillside, waving his arms and yelling. On his back was a child or monkey child which he took in his hands and held aloft as if to show it to the woman, who renewed her struggle to be free. The Sisemite came far down the hill almost to the brook; he dropped the child and tore off great branches from big trees which he threw at us."

The young man was brought from his cell into the presence of this wild creature and asked if he recognized her. He replied, "My wife was young and beautiful; the woman I see is old and ugly." The woman never spoke a word and from that time on made no sound. She refused to eat and a few days after her capture she died. (Gordon (1915), p. 107-108)
Another story of the Sisemite, "a large, hairy gorilla with a head much like a human's" comes from Belize:

A young farmer from the Toledo District once reported that his wife had been carried off by a SISIMITO, and because authorities believed he had killed his wife, they imprisoned him. Some time later, a group of hunters discovered a wild-looking woman drinking at a stream by the hillside.

...tried to capture her but she struggled violently, more so when a SISIMITO appeared at the top of the hill, carrying a child who looked like a cross between a monkey and a human. The SISIMITO shrieked wildly and purposely dropped the child. He then tramped down the hill and threw branches at the hunters, who nevertheless managed to carry the woman away. When they brought her before the imprisoned man, however he was unable to recognize her, saying that his wife had been young and attractive, unlike the wild, unsightly woman he saw before him. The woman refused to speak or eat, and she died a few days later, pining away for her lost child. (Characters & Caricatures in Belizean Folklore, p. 41-42) Another couple of stories comes from Honduras:

My grandfather told me that he ran into the Sisimite around 1912, up there on Pico Bonito. It walked like a man, had a very hairy body and was very tall," said Don Manuel Mejöa, an octogenarian living in the village of La Union, scant kilometers from La Ceiba. |...| These monsters would kidnap women and take them to their lairs. It is said that man-apes were born of these matings," added the old man. The story of a woman who managed to escape from one such Sisimite abode is still discussed among the mountain villagers: the creature pursued her, carrying with it the three offspring they had had together and showing them to the mother, who had fled to the other side of a river, in hopes of attracting her to her children. Its efforts were in vain, and the troglodyte mortally threw the inhuman infants into the water. (Mausó, 1999)

* McDowell News, Marion, NC Mike Conley: Cattle mutilation alive and well today July 7, 2005. Last week, the History Channel presented a new documentary on the weird phenomenon called cattle mutilations.Although I didn't get to watch the entire program, I saw enough to let me know that the phenomenon is alive and well in 2005 - even if the cattle are dead.

Cattle mutilation is the term given to the thousands of cases where farm animals are found dead and their bodies mutilated in a strange way. The cause of death is undetermined (they don't appear to have been shot or poisoned) and all of the blood has been removed from their bodies. And strangest of all, certain body parts are found surgically removed from the cattle, usually the reproductive and rectal organs. A cow's udders are sometimes found removed as well. The incisions are always performed neatly and precisely with almost no blood at the scene.

Investigators will find abnormally high levels of radiation around the places where the dead animals are discovered. In some cases, the cattle are found marked with a kind of fluorescent paint. Buzzards and other scavengers will not touch the carcasses. No footprints or signs of a struggle are found around the scene. Investigators will often discover clamp marks on the animals' legs that indicate they were taken from their pastures, killed and mutilated elsewhere and then brought back, according to a Web site.

People will report seeing UFOs at around the same time that the cattle mutilations occur. This has led many to suspect that aliens from outer space are responsible for the weird phenomenon. Most of the cases come from North America but other parts of the world have experienced it as well. Sheep and horses have also been the victims.

The phenomena began in the fall of 1973 when farmers in Minnesota and Kansas reported finding dead, mutilated cattle. The local police in both states looked into the matter but realized that this was nothing like anything else they had ever seen. They first suspected this was the work of some kind of satanic cult.

Later, more reported cattle mutilations occurred throughout the Midwestern United States and central Canada. Farmers and ranchers were concerned and afraid about what was happening to their livestock. They had heard nothing during the night when their valuable cattle were killed and mutilated. They wanted answers.

As the years went by, investigators put forward four theories to explain the cattle mutilations: satanic cults and ritual sacrifices, top secret government projects involving chemical weapons, mass hysteria blowing the thing out of proportion and most popular of all, experiments by alien visitors in UFOs.

In some cases, police were able to link the mutilations to satanic cults in Idaho, Montana, Iowa and Alberta, Canada. But that could not explain the other cases quickly coming from all over the world.

As for the secret government project theory, folks have reported spotting black, unmarked helicopters with tinted windows and searchlights at the same time when cattle mutilations are occurring. But again, this cannot explain the other cases that have come in from other countries. Are all the governments where this occurs involved in some kind of worldwide conspiracy?

And I don't believe that these are natural deaths blown out of proportion. I have seen photos and video footage of the mutilated cattle. A farmer or rancher would have good reason to be concerned if he went out one morning and found this. Someone or something apparently drained the blood and neatly removed the sexual or rectal organs. This takes time and some degree of planning. A wolf or a coyote would not leave cattle in such a state. So, we are still left with the extraterrestrial theory. Cattle mutilations often occur in such UFO-related places as northern New Mexico and near the secret government installation in Nevada called Area 51. Some folks have even reported seeing a UFO lift the animals off the ground with an invisible force. Two people who reported to have been abducted by aliens also said they witnessed a cattle mutilation inside the UFO, according to a Web site. But this must bring little consolation to the farmer or rancher who has lost some valuable livestock and doesn't know how to keep it from happening again. Contact Mike Conley at 652-3313 or e-mail nconley@mcdowellnews.com.

* "Craig Woolheater" <ecwool@swbell.net>
Field News & Notes, July 13, 2005, Bigfoot Hunt
Legendary creature's capture said to be imminent
by Dave Hurteau, Field & Stream. The Internet was abuzz last week with reports that Bigfoot's long-awaited capture is nearly at hand as Sasquatch explorer C. Thomas Biscardi, founder of the Great American Bigfoot Research Organization, has begun an investigation into a cavernous area near Happy Camp, California. Biscardi is reportedly confident that he'll find evidence of Bigfoot inhabitation and hopefully be able to contain and capture a live creature—as confident, one might guess, as Geraldo Rivera once was about finding something—anything—in Al Capone's secret vault.

* The Top 100 Cryptozoologists, July 12, 2005

FATE Magazine has commissioned Loren Coleman to do the research, compile, and write the biographies for "The Top 100 Cryptozoologists: The Major Living Personalities Associated with Cryptozoology." You can have input and be part of the project via suggesting those personalities you think should go on the list.

As with the recent list of top 100 Ufologists, the cryptozoologists on the new list must be living, involved in cryptozoology fieldwork, research and writing, and have had a major influence on the field via their thoughts, theories, works, personality, media impact, peer relationships, and discoveries. Cryptozoologists included will be students of various cryptids, including Sea Serpents, Lake Monsters, Yeti, Bigfoot, as well as the lesser known unknown or hidden animals such as the Tsuchinoko, Waitoreke, or the oft-forgotten Tatzelwurm.

Loren Coleman is approaching the list without personal bias, and will include people that may not wish to be in the same room with each other at a Bigfoot, Nessie, or Cryptozoology conference, but who have importance, significance, fame, or infamy in this subfield of zoology. Impact is one of many keys to getting on the list, and such diverse individuals as Mark A. Hall, Peter Byrne, Erik Beckjord, Craig Woolheater, John Kirk, Richard Greenwell, Bobbie Short, Bob Gimlin, Jill Miller, Adrain Shine, Robert Rines, Chad Arment, Mark Chorvinsky, John Lutz, Helen McGinnis, Greg Long, John Green, Jan-Ove Sundberg, John Keel, and Ben Radford are seriously being considered for the list.

If you have any suggested names, please send them along to Loren Coleman, here before August 30, 2005.

* From Bobbie Short Newsletter:
How about an update on this from the Aussies readers? The Border Mail - Mon, Apr 23, 2001 -Bid to capture yowies on video, YOWIE hunters said they were grappling with an ethical dilemma as they prepared to set out on an expedition to capture one of the elusive creatures on video. Australian Yowie Research spokesman Mr. Dean Harrison said yesterday it could be morally wrong to reveal the creatures and their whereabouts. But he said the film project "could also add weight to the argument that logging in their known habitats was endangering them." The Brisbane-based businessman was preparing to lead an expedition into a south-east Queensland State forest to film a Yowie, said to be a hairy powerful ape-like creature. "We have a team of 24 in Operation Rotation which begins on April 26 and ends on May 4," Mr. Harrison said. He said the group, which included five people with military tracking experience, would camp on a rotational basis in the state forest north-west of Esk. "That's the hot spot for Yowies," he said. "Our information is that a least two clans or families of Yowies live in the area." – AAP

* Craig Woolheater" <ecwool@swbell.net Is Lake Texoma Stomping Grounds for BIGFOOT? By Beth Anderson Lake Texoma Times, July 2005 That hirsute man crawling out of the wooded areas of Lake Texoma may not be your neighbor making an ill-advised nature walk au naturale. If local scholars are to be believed, Lake Texoma has more than one kind of seasonal resident - and this kind isn't quite so wont to run around on JetSkis or go noodling. The resident? Bigfoot. Yeti. Sasquatch.
And yes, if the existence of Bigfoots...Bigfeets...

Sasquatches. If the presence of Sasquatches this far south surprises you - you're not the only one. (And could someone please tell me what the proper plural of Bigfoot is?)But the Texas Bigfoot Research Center gets calls regarding the presence of Bigfoot all the time - and even has an entire website devoted to researching their existence, migratory patterns, and explaining to the general public how to report a sighting."Contrary to the notions of some, these animals are not exclusive to the Pacific Northwest, although that region may indeed contain the largest group," the TRBC said.

"These animals have a long history of habitation in Texas and neighboring states; in Texas, encounters are reported predominantly in the eastern third of the state." And the Lake Texoma area, and the Red River, are right smack in ground central for Bigfoot migration. "We don't think they live here all the time," said researcher Jerry Hestand. "But we do think the area is in their migratory pattern." In fact there have been reports of Bigfoot sightings in the Hagerman area of Lake Texoma, and around Denison and Van Alstyne. "We think they use the Red River as a migration area," Hestand said. "There have even been sightings north of the river and north of Lake Texoma, and around Pottsboro." "We usually have a backlog of reports," Hestand explained. "But we do get back in a timely fashion." After reading the reported sighting, Hestand and other investigators get back with the person to suss out whether or not the claim is legit. "We interview them, and go back over the report," he explained. "We usually have a map of the area, and we'll ask questions about the area to see if it sounds legitimate." If it is, a report is typed up and sent in. "If it's a recent sighting, we'll go to the site and look for evidence," Hestand added. But visual encounters aren't the only proof the group says exists of Bigfoot. Physical evidence in the way of footprints, handprints, hair samples and recorded vocalizations have also been accumulated. Hestand agrees there are those who would scoff at the notion that Bigfoot actually exists.

In fact, most rank Bigfoot believers right up there with UFO watchers and other fodder for National Enquirer. But Hestand and the TBRC insist that Bigfoot is scientific – and that they have the research to prove it. According to the group, Bigfoot is a "bipedal, nocturnal primate." "This would effectively move Bigfoot/Sasquatch from the realm of cryptozoology into zoology," the group says. And Bigfoot isn't scary - he's misunderstood. He's not a monster, but an animal - like a monkey. "We are dealing with a primate, an elusive primate, not a monster, the 'missing link,' a shape-shifter from another dimension or an extra-terrestrial being," they explain. "They're omnivores," Hestand added. "We've had reports from deer and turkey hunters of them coming and taking their catch. There are people who own orchards and plum trees who have reported seeing them pick from them." "They'll eat whatever they can find," he said. "They're very opportunistic." There is much uninhabited, or less densly populated areas in Oklahoma, Texas and Louisiana, Hestand said, that is hospitable to Bigfoot. But as that land is lost to development, the chances of seeing a Bigfoot will actually increase - just like bear sightings and panther sightings increase when humans began taking previously unpopulated land. "As growth occurs, there is the possibility that we may see more sightings," Hestand said. But Bigfoot is also verging on extinction, he said. "There aren't that many left, and they may be on the verge of extinction," he said. "But they're really just another species of ape."
The fact that they are primates, Hestand said, gives researches many clues about why sightings occur."Just like with other primates, when the male becomes a juvenile, they're kind of separated from the pack and begin looking for a mate," he explained. "Lots of these sightings are just juvenile males looking for a female. The sightings around the Red River and Lake Texoma are just chance encounters." So yes, those summer lake dwellers aren't just the kind that barbecue, fish and boat. Some of Lake Texoma's most faithful yearly visitors may just be more monkey than man.

* Dear Mr. Crowe, Thought you might find the following article on hyperpilosity (excessive hair development) in humans of possible interest -- though it's not directly related to cryptozoology per se. It does however indicate that certain humans can develop a long shaggy coat of hair. It's from an 1887 French popular science journal "La Nature" (full bibliographical details in article). It is cited by Fabio Picasso in his 1992 article "More on the Mono Grande mystery," which appeared in Strange Magazine No. 9, p. 41, 53. If you wish to post the text somewhere feel free to do so, just mention my name as translator. Dr. Georges T. Dodds Research Associate, Department of Bioresources Engineering, Macdonald Campus of McGill University 21,111 Lakeshore Rd. Sainte Anne-de-Bellevue, QC, CanadaH9X 3V9 E-mail: georges.dodds@mcgill.ca
Hairy men, Guyot-Daubes. 1887. Les hommes velus. La Nature (733): 41-43; (736): 86-87. The two hairy individuals, a mother and her son, recently exhibited in Paris under the name of Pilosis or Hirsutes are interesting on a number of levels. The mother is an old woman of sixty-four named Mahphoon. Her head is covered with fine, long, silky hairs, similar those of a spaniel. These hairs are particularly abundant on the fore and eyebrow areas, as well as on the cheeks, and the ridge of the nose bears a band of hair. The moustache is thick and has a distinct separ in the middle of the upper lip. On the cheeks and chin the hair is very long and very abundant, especially where a beard normally develops on man. The poor old woman is blind. The son, Moung-Phoset, has, like his mother, hair on his face, but it is more abundant and coarser, being similar to a goat's coat. On the head, instead of hair, there is long fur whose ends he ties up in a bun. The shoulders, the neck and the chest are also hairy. The spine is covered with a veritable mane. On the limbs the hair is shorter and much finer; it constitutes a sort of 5 to 6 cm long carpet. Neither the mother nor the son have any hair on their hands or feet.

Moung-Phoset is married to a Burmese woman, with whom he has had several children, amongst which is a girl which exhibits the same characteristics as her father and grandmother. This young woman, named Mah-May had reached the age of eighteen, when she died last year in in Burma, a short time after her parents' departure for Europe.

The story of these individuals deserves to be told. In past years, before Burma's occupation by the British, they lived in King Thi-bo's court where they were kept as curios amongst the midgets and clowns. But when the Burmese, in a bloody act of patriotism, burned their capital rather than see it remain in British hands (28 November 1885), the hairy man and his family, frightened by the flames, by the soldiers fighting the arsonists, the sound of cannons and mines the English were using to try to stay the progress of the fire, in the midst of the general panic, escaped through the flames, the son carrying on his back his blind old mother, and dragging along behind him his wife and children. They took refuge in a forest near near Amara-Poura, and it is there that an Italian officer and former major-domo to King Thi-bo, who had undertaken to track them down, found them dying of hunger and exhaustion, and took them in: it is he who is currently putting them on exhibit in Europe. A matter of manners to note: these hairy individuals could, while they were in Mandalay, go to the market and take the fruit and vegetables which took their fancy. The Burmese farmers whose produce had been chosen were, it is said, extremely flattered, and considered it an honour and a very auspicious occurrence.

The existence of a hairy family at the Burmese court has long been known, and the individuals who made it up have frequently been described by travellers. Thus, when the government of India sent Lord Crawford to Ava in 1824, to negotiate a treaty with the king, he described in detail and told the strange story of a hairy-man named Shwe-Maong; he speaks of one of the latter's children, a little girl then aged two who was equally hairy, this was Mahphoon, the old woman who was recently seen in Paris.

In 1855 British officers sent to Ava saw a young hairy-woman and brought back a description of her; it was one of the strangest things they had seen in their travels; this young woman was again Mahphoon.

In 1875 (v. 1, p. 121) La Nature gave, based on the accounts of several travellers, printed a description of Shwe-Maong, the hairy-man, of his daughter Mahphoon ,and of her child, a young boy bearing the same traits as his mother and grandfather. This young man was Moung-Phoset, recently exhibited at the Folies-Bergère. He is the father of the young hairy-woman Mah-May, who died last year in Burma. This young woman was thus an example of the inheritance of this remarkable trait of hyperpilosity to the fourth generation. Now, it should be noted that this inheritance occurred in spite of the spouse's bloodline, whose traits should have tended to predominate given their much great number of normal ancestors. It is not clear that the hairy-men of Burma are not descendants of a race presenting the same traits and having in the past inhabited the forests of Laos. Thus, from a genetics perspective, it will be useful to briefly review the history of the families of the hairy individuals of whom we speak, particularly since it is rather extraordinary that they would have come to marry one another.

The first, Shwe-Maong, a fool at the Burmese court, was married in a rather original manner. A young woman of great beauty, the queen's lady-in-waiting, was accused of an affront to the nation's official religion and sentenced to die by the most hideous of tortures. On the day of the execution she was conducted with great ceremony to the cemetery where she was to be tortured. The torture was about to begin when a horseman arrived on a horse that had been given free rein, bringing an order to postpone the execution and offering the woman the choice between marrying the hairy-man or dying; she preferred the strange marriage. The ceremony was accompanied with grotesque celebrations: midgets, albinos, and the king's fools made up the couple's wedding party. From this marriage seven children were born, the first two died young but did not appear abnormal in any way; this was the case with the third, a little girl who survived; the third, in contrast, was hairy, she was, as we have

...ued the old Mahphoon of today; of the three next, two died young, ...and a girl, who appeared by the type and pattern of their hair to ...have become hairy when adult.

...Mahphoon married a Burmese man with whom she had many children, ...long which three were hairy, two boys and one girl; among these the ...ly one to reach maturity was Moung-Phoset.

Moung-Phoset married, as had his grandfather, one of the ladies-in-waiting at the court, who wed him voluntarily, a marriage for love it is claimed. From this marriage only one child was born, the hairy young woman Mah-May of whom we have spoken and whom, as we have stated died in Burma. Such is, from the genetic point of view, the history of this strange family.

The two individuals exhibited in Paris, Moung-Phoset and his mother Mahphoon have an abnormal dentition; they have no molars, they only have the two first incisors and two canines in their upper jaw, the intermediate incisors are missing. In the lower jaw they have four incisors and two canines. One should note that an analogous irregular dentition has frequently been noted among those bearing an overabundance of hair, particularly in the case of André Jeftichjew, the so-called dog-man, of which La Nature has given a description (22 november 1875, p. 385).

Examples of hairy individuals are fairly numerous, those who study birth defects have cited a great number of them, and in the taxonomy of human monsters they have termed their condition hypertrichopherosis.

Examples of some of these cases deserve to be mentioned. A certain number of anthropologists now admit that prehistoric men of the Tertiary era were hairless, not covered in hair, or at least no more than a rugged man of today. But they agree that at a later period, at the beginning of the Quaternary, the human race was then completely covered in hair, and base this assertion on the discovery, made a few years ago at a prehistoric dig, of a reindeer horn upon which a Quaternary artist had carved the portrait of a woman covered with a long, thick fleece. At the end of this geologic era, man had once again become hairless. This theory is criticised: people object that a single drawing representing a hairy person is not sufficient to conclude that the entire human race of the time was so constituted. This woman, might have in her day represented a case analogous to the hairy individuals which are exhibited today, and it might be in this context that the artist of the time judged her worthy to be committed to posterity.

Whatever the case, this woman is the first one mentioned in the history of the human race.

In the Bible one finds a hairy-man, namely Esau. When Jacob wished to fraudulently obtain his blind father's blessing to make his the family patriarch in place of Esau, he said to his mother Rebecca, who was his accomplice: "You know that my brother Esau has a hairy body and that I am not so."

In Paulini's Les mélanges académiques des curieux de la nature one finds a description of a dog-man, and stranger yet, the author claims that the birth of this monster was attended with flames and a great fracas (monstrum caninum-humanum cum flamma et fragore natum).

In the middle of the last century the Journal étranger inserted the description of a hairy little girl, addressed to them from Lisbon; she was about seven. "She is," they stated, "huge and of a husky build, her face and her entire body is covered in great hairs of different colours, length, curliness and consistence. The hair on her head is not unusual."

Buffon speaks of a woman living in the city of Bar, who, he says, "from the collar bone to the extremities is covered in a patchy, tawny calfskin. Also, in 1774, a Russian man whose forehead and entire face were covered in black hair was seen in Paris." At Yeço, travellers of the same period claim to have seen several individuals whose face was completely covered in hair.

One finds in the Annals of the Royal Society of London a report by a Dr. Ascanius describing in some detail an individual which he describes as a porcupine-man. Here is his description: The man in question, Edward Lambert, was born in Suffolk in 1710; nothing upon his birth would have led one to suspect the state in which he would appear a month and a half later. There appeared on his body a countless number of little growths which were first thought to represent a skin condition. It was soon discovered that these were bristles, which had the consistency of horn and that nothing could stop the progression of. their growth. Except for his head, the palms of his hands, and the sole of his feet, the rest of his body was covered with these bristles, which when they began to grow looked like the hollow stalks of feathers one sees on a plucked chicken. They were 6 lines long (0.0135 m) by 4 lines (0.0090 m) wide. As in the hedgehog they were inserted perpendicularly into the skin. They were livid in colour and seemed transparent when placed before a light. When the skin was folded over and the bristles were lying horizontal, they skin appeared white, while everywhere else on the body it was black. This man when dressed and wearing gloves looked like anyone else. His beard and hair were black, he was well put together and had an interesting face. But here is something quite singular: these bristles fell off every fall and grew back later, such that one might say that the man resembled the beasts in his bristles and molting. If he lost a piece of skin, the spot remained bare and did not bear any of these bristles. At the age of twenty he contracted confluent small pox and his entire body rapidly lost all its hair, but after his recovery the bristles returned as before. In general he was always in good health. He was twice administered a full round of medications and he suffered a cure of excessive salivation without any amendments. The man married. His marriage produced six children, as many girls as boys, all bearing his traits and similarly covered with horny protrusions. There only remained a single son bearing his father's traits when Dr. Ascanius published this paper."

La Nature has already described dog-men who displayed themselves in Paris in 1875, et the young hairy-girl Krao exhibited first in America and who came to Paris last year.

This abnormal development of the body hair over the entire surface of the body is thus encountered fairly commonly in mankind. The frequency of this condition is even greater when one considers cases where this anomaly only affects a portion of the body, consisting only in hairy patches of greater or lesser dimensions, from the simple spot, to a patch of goat hair, to larger patches covering almost the entire body. These patches are only a nævus or port-wine stain upon which the hair follicles are numerous and produce short, coarse hairs; they are constituted of a yellowish or brownish skin which is soft in texture, like a normal nævus. One often meets with people who bear such a hair-covered nævus on their face or neck, but as they generally carefully clip these, this small infirmity is seldom noticed. Such spots are also found on the body where they can be quite large.

We have seen a little girl in the country who had, on the right shoulder-blade a spot the width of a hand. This spot was covered in rather long and abundant hair which was matted down by the rubbing of her clothing. The mother recounted that the child had picked up lice in her hair at school, and that she had had some in the patch over her shoulder too.

One should note that in folk medicine these hairy patches are attributed to port-wine stains and are termed pork rinds or ham spots.

In March 1774, at the Saint Germain Fair in Paris, a rather cute little girl of about three, but, whose body was mottled with hairy patches, was being exhibited. This child was examined in June by Buffon who described her as follows.

"She was a little girl named Anne-Marie Herig, born November 11 1770 in Dackstul in German Lorraine, some 7 leagues from Trèves. Neither her father, her mother, or her parents had any spots on their skin. This little girl nonetheless had her body, her face, and her limbs mottled and covered in many areas with more or less large patches covered with hair resembling calfskin; a few other spots were covered with shorter hair which more closely resembled deerskin."

In 1806 doctor Bodard presented to the Paris Medical Board a child whose neck, shoulders and back were covered with hair in such a fashion as to take on the form of a standard palate.

Dr. H. Cloquet, in a 18 november 1828 report to the Academy of Medicine describes a young man of fourteen, son of a clothweaver from near Bordeaux, who presented several hairy patches. The largest of these occupied a portion of his back, one shoulder, to top of the arm and the anterior surface of the chest. One might have thought that child had thrown a pelt over his shoulder; the hair was silky, short, smooth and prostrate. In this report we will point out the following sentence: "Not mentioning the savages of Malicoco among whom a similar colour of skin, and covering of hair is natural." We have not found anything in the accounts of modern travellers which might justify this belief in the existence of a entirely hair-covered race of humans.

The Paris Faculty of Medicine and the Anthropological Society own a great number of castings, drawings and photographs of hairy individuals.

Here is a last, is rather interesting example. Around 1855, a young boy was exhibited in one of the outdoor fairs then taking place in Marigny Square at the Champs-Elysées. One side of his face was entirely covered in hair. This child would present himself to the public in profile. He was a cute little boy of ten or eleven, with well-drawn features, nice eyes, a pretty smile. He was dressed in a colourful Hussar's uniform, which he wore with an easy grace — he was a delightful child. Suddenly he turned, he was a monster. Indeed the right side of his face was covered with a horrible black nævus with a rough puffy surface and large folds. Over this surface were scattered long rough bristles which one might have compared to those of the boar. This sudden transformation had naturally drawn cries of surprise and the interest of the spectators.

Philosophers have long debated the question: would there be any advantage in man having a natural layer of fur like that of other animals. A hairy-man would suffer less from the rigours of winter, and from variations in temperature, wind, rain or any other weather extremes. To this paradox certain philosophers answer: what has marked man's

superiority over the animals is precisely his weakness, his lack of natural defensive or offensive weapons, the very imperfection of the tools supplied him for capturing his food. It is his very nudity, the absence of a protective mechanism against cold and inclement weather which confers this superiority.

Man in his struggle for existence has only overcome the elements and survived wild animals because he was forced to make himself weapons, shelter, tools and clothing. His inventive capacities always kept keen by necessity, has been sufficient to save him from the dangers that threatened him, and to transform him step by step from a savage man to a civilised one. This influence of necessity in inciting the genius of invention still exists nowadays; those peoples whose civilisations are advanced are those who live in a climate which requires a constant battle, and constant work for man to obtain his subsistence and assure his security.

But this is only a philosophical opinion; and we therefore cannot know if experience will support it,

* The Texas Bigfoot Research Center; Texas Bigfoot Conference 2005 http://www.texasbigfoot.com/events5.html
WHEN: Friday, Saturday & Sunday, October 14th, 15th & 16th, 2005
WHERE: The Conference will be held at the Jefferson High School. 1 Bulldog Drive Jefferson, Texas, 75657 http://www.jeffersontx.com
WHO: Featured Speakers include:
Rick Noll on Pacific Northwest Field Research Techniques
Jimmy Chilcutt on Bigfoot footprint dermal ridge analysis
Dr. Jeff Meldrum on Evaluation of alleged Sasquatch footprints http://www.isu.edu/%7Emeldd/fxnlmorph.html
Loren Coleman; http://www.lorencoleman.com
Chris Murphy; Author of the award-winning book, Meet the Sasquatch
Paul Cropper on the Australian Yowie
Kathy Moskowitz on the archaeological viewpoint of the hairy man pictographs
Scott Herriott; http://www.squatching.com/
Daryl Colyer on Texas Bigfoot research
DETAILS: For complete details on The TBRC - Texas Bigfoot Conference 2005, including the activities guide please see our website at http://www.texasbigfoot.com/events5.html
REGISTRATION: General admission for the Conference is $10 each day, $20 for both Saturday & Sunday, at the door . There are several VIP pre-registration packages which will include activities that will be held in conjunction with the Conference. To see the schedule and information on the different packages, go to the following url: http://www.texasbigfoot.com/prereg5.html
MAILING ADDRESS: Please send your check or money order payable to - Texas Bigfoot Research Center, P. O. Box 191711, Dallas, Texas 75219
LODGING: For lodging options in Jefferson options in Jefferson, check here:http://jeffersontx.com/bbsearch/
The Inn of Jefferson also has rooms available: http://www.hotel-jefferson.com
ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFO: To schedule an interview, or obtain further information please contact Craig Woolheater at (877) 529-5550 toll-free anytime...
MAIN WEBSITE: http://www.texasbigfoot.com
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* From : Kimba D'Michi kimbasmeow@yahoo.com
Cryptozoologist Ken Gerhard Under The Spotlight Monster Hunter In Search of the Unknown Dateline: Tuesday, July 19, 2005 By: NICK REDFERN This past weekend I had the pleasure of traveling out to Lake Worth, Texas, with well-known Texan cryptozoologist Ken Gerhard and his wife, Lori, in search of the truth about one of Texas's strangest mysterious beasts – the Goat-Man.

According to the facts, the legend and the rumors, on 10 July 1969, John Reichart, his wife and two other couples had been on the shores of Lake Worth around midnight when a giant creature leaped out of the darkness and onto the Reichart's car. Covered in scales and fur, they creature was described as looking like a cross between a goat and a man – hence the somewhat unfortunate name that has been given to the beast.

In the days that followed, further sightings of the creature were made as gun-toting locals wandered through the woods in search of their mysterious quarry. Needless to say, theories abounded as to precisely what the creature was – or wasn't.

Some said that sightings of the beast were prime evidence that Bigfoot was living in Texas; others said that it was an escaped, pet Bobcat; the theory that it was a "big, white ape" was discussed; as was the possibility that it was all a hoax by teenagers; or – on a similar path - that it was simply a local folk-tale spread by anxious parents, to keep teenage away from the area and from doing the sorts of things that teenage couples get up to in the backs of cars in dark woods at midnight!

Regardless of the truth, the Goat-Man is now a staple part of Texan cryptozoology, history and folklore – indeed, it has also been the subje a full-length book – "The Lake Worth Monster of Greer Island, Ft. Worth, Texas," written by local resident Sallie Ann Clarke. Published many years ago, the book can still be found on Ebay and elsewhere

I am going to be preparing a full-length report on the search of the area that Ken, Lori and me undertook on Saturday 18 July – the prime reason being that we uncovered some intriguing photographic material that is sure to be of interest to the cryptozoological community.

Until then, I want to tell you more about Ken Gerhard himself. Born during a full moon on Friday, 13 October 1967 in Lansing, Michigan (one week before the famous Patterson Film - allegedly showing a Bigfoot - was shot), Ken is the sort of cryptozoologist that we need more of.

In today's sterile world where reams of data can be found on the Net at the touch of a keyboard, Ken is one of those people for who only a first-hand, in the field investigation will do. And thank God for that.

To illustrate this, he has traveled extensively to locations such as the Amazon, Loch Ness, Stonehenge, the Australian Interior, the Galapagos Islands, and Belize in search of the unknown, always armed with a wealth of cameras, broadcast-quality movie cameras, tape-recorders, night-vision equipment, etc., etc. Having performed with the bands the Bozo Porno Circus; Bamboo Crisis; and Flowers & Machines, Ken – with Lori – is now going full steam ahead with his crypto research. Indeed, right now he has a great, self-published book available that chronicles the country-wide research of our intrepid pair. Titled "Monsters Are Real!" it can be purchased from Ken by contacting him at: Ken Gerhard, 1802 Rosedale, Houston, Texas, 77004. If you want to see how a real crypto investigation should be undertaken, and want to learn what really drives someone to follow their beliefs and their passions, then Ken's book is the one for you. If you are a veteran of the subject or simply want to know more about what is really lurking within the forests, lakes and jungles of our world, then I heartily recommend that you read "Monsters Are Real!" Ken told me of his future plans in search of all things monstrous and unknown – both in Texas and elsewhere. It's people like Ken that we need to be supporting. Entirely self-funded and utterly dedicated to their calling, Ken and Lori deserve to be applauded for the contributions they are making to the field of cryptozoology. A note to crypto-conference organizers: if you want to learn about the exploits and adventures of a man who gets out there and actually does his own research (and who has secured some excellent film footage on his excursions, too), book him to speak at your next gig – you will not regret it!

* Craig Woolheater-TBRC ecwool@swbell.net
Texas Bigfoot Conference: Titus County's Bigfoot Sightings Span 20 Years, Research Center Reports Tue, 19 Jul 2005 Titus County's Bigfoot Sightings Span 20 Years, Research Center Reports By Hudson Old, Editor Mount Pleasant, Texas EAST TEXAS JOURNAL, January 2005

Three sightings of Bigfoot in Titus County [Texas] are reported in copyrighted submissions at the Texas Bigfoot Research Center website. http://www.texasbigfoot.com/ No names of witnesses are provided, but there are detailed statements. Variously described as between six and eight feet tall, covered with long hair ranging from dark to reddish brown, the creature is said to walk and run upright. In an August 1999 sighting near the junction of I-30 and FM 1001, the center's investigator reports the witness saying he observed Bigfoot for perhaps ten seconds from a distance of between 20 and 50 feet. In that report, two people are said to have been moving quietly along a creek bank when they heard a rustling in the bushes. As they moved closer, the primate stood and made a challenging growl. As reported, their description of Bigfoot's foul odor fits with the report of a sighting in May of 1995 near White Oak Creek, which was in flood stage at the time. The alarm went up when the dogs began barking around 10 p.m. as the family sat at the kitchen table. Going out to investigate, the son was scanning the garden with a flashlight when he caught sight of a large figure by a plum tree at the edge of the garden. Pulling the beam back to focus on the animal, he reported that it turned, seemed to look at him, then fled.

The reported sighting is accompanied by a statement of physical evidence including long, gooey hair found on a fence near the garden and one set of large footprints found on a dam about 300 yards away.

Another incident reported by a member of the same family dates back to 1985. Investigating noises outside a trailer near U.S. 67, tracks leading to a box culvert beneath the highway were found. In the culvert was the carcass of a deer in such condition as to lead them to believe something had been feeding on it.

A report submitted in 2001 dates back to 1979, when a 9-year-old boy playing near Lake Tankersley [near Mount Pleasant, AKA Mount

ery] spotted Bigfoot running through a pasture across the road from *home.* Estimating its height at six feet or better, he said the creature *upright,* went over four-strand barbed wire fence in stride, and came *within 40* yards of his position as it crossed the road, then disappeared *into the woods.* At the website are photos and some interesting correspondence between Bigfoot believers and Texas Parks & Wildlife.

As for the question about the existence of Bigfoot, the research quotes a former director of the American Board of Forensic Anthropologists, George W. Gill. "Either the most complex and sophisticated hoax in the history of anthropology has continued for centuries without being exposed, or the most manlike non-human primate on Earth has managed to survive in parts of North America and remains undiscovered by modern science."

* I would like to put together a Bigfoot investigation kit. I would like to hear from you what you would put into your Bigfoot investigation kit. I have one already made up, and I know its a matter of choice in most items going into it, however I am curious, if you had to put together an investigation kit for field research, what would the items you would put in it include? I think it wise not to over load the kit, as this is something you can fit neatly into a backpack or waste pack.

Some of my items include:

Compass
Whistle
Measuring tape
Small container of plaster of paris
bottle of water
camera and or video camera
tape recorder
maps
tweezers
plastic baggies, ties.
Tweezers
Small first aid kit
latex gloves
bear repellent
compass
whistle

If you want to add to the list, or make your own list, please feel free. This is only for my own curiousity sake.

Thanks for your participation
Eric Altman
Pennsylvania Bigfoot Society
26 Cardinal Drive
Jeannette PA 15644
www.pabigfootsociety.com

Note: I use cut sections of coat hangers to put in plaster to give added strength. Rick Noll suggests you use wood slats (two L shapes) to dam the plaster with and make a complete mold rather than an outline. Also, bait of some kind and a magnifying glass to find hair or dermal ridges. Ray

* "Michael Newton" <eyeofnewt@att.net>

Bhutan's Yeti wildlife sanctuary, 22 July 2005 Where the Yeti roams free In the Himilayan kingdom of Bhutan, a wilderness preserve supports a yet-unseen 'strong man' by NICOLE GORDON

I keep hearing that the Kingdom of Bhutan, a tiny Buddhist country nestled in the Himalayas between India and Tibet, is an enchanting place. People who've traveled there describe snow-capped peaks, lush valleys and ancient monasteries. The country is especially known for its progressive environmental laws, and is sometimes even called "the last Shangri-la" for its unspoiled natural environment. Recently, I learned an odd detail about Bhutan's approach to conservation, something that might sound preposterous here in the American West. World Wildlife Fund's Bhutan program has received a $700,000 grant from the MacArthur Foundation to help the Bhutanese government upgrade management of the Sakteng Wildlife Sanctuary, the country's newest protected area. Temperate forests of eastern blue pine and rhododendrons cover this 253-square-mile sanctuary. "Sakteng is unique," reported the Environment News Service, "as the only reserve in the world created specifically to protect the habitat of the Yeti, known in Bhutan as the migoi, or strong man." Excuse me? The Bhutanese have created a 253-square-mile wildlife sanctuary for the Yeti? They are officially setting aside habitat for a mythological hairy dude known for scaring campers? At first, I thought the story must be an error, but a little online research confirmed it. Indeed, the Bhutanese have officially given the migoi its very own home among the blue pines and rhododendrons of the Sakteng Wildlife Sanctuary. Here's what we know about the migoi, which goes by the names Bigfoot and Sasquatch in other parts of the world. The ape-like creature has been a legend in the Himalayas for centuries and is even mentioned in ancient Tibetan and Bhutanese texts. It stands 8 feet tall, walks backward to evade trackers and can make itself invisible, which explains why so few people have observed it. So-called rational explanations suggest the migoi is actually a Tibetan bear, a rare species related to the grizzly, that places its back foot in the footprint of its front foot while traveling through snow, thus giving the appearance of a two-legged animal. But if the Bhutanese thought this was an explanation, they probably would have created a bear sanctuary. Back home in the American West, we have enough trouble getting land set aside for fully real, often endangered species that we've tracked, collared or tagged, and documented for decades, that don't walk backwards or make themselves invisible. Our most iconic wild animals - -wolves, salmon, bears, lynx -- are some of those that society has been least willing to accommodate. Case in point: In May, the Bush administration repealed the 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule, immediately opening 34.3 million remote acres in the West to road construction and potentially opening many more to logging, mining and drilling. Supporters of the rule, which provided protection for some of our country's last remaining wild places, called it one of the most important conservation efforts of recent times. Yet over in Bhutan, the migoi gets its own personal wildlife sanctuary, just in case one of these "strong men" exists to need it. I wonder what sort of political wrangling the Bhutanese went through to create the Sakteng Wildlife Sanctuary. I know that the Bhutanese king has been in the international spotlight for measuring his country's progress in terms of Gross National Happiness rather than Gross National Product. Despite such enlightenment, it's often a challenge for developing countries to set aside wildlife sanctuaries. Bhutan is a small nation, just a bit larger than Switzerland. But unlike Switzerland, the annual income per person is a paltry $730. Only 42 percent of Bhutanese are literate, and they can expect to live only 52 years. Timber is one of Bhutan's main exports, but apparently the Bhutanese decided that conserving the trees was worth it to provide habitat for their "strong men." Here in the American West, with our abundance of land and relative affluence, why is it so hard to convince each other and our local and national leaders to protect our wildlands? Perhaps we need some more strong men and women of our own.

* cr Vance Orchard Posted 7/11/2005 3:48 AM Mexico footprints could be a giant archaeological step By Dan Vergano, USA TODAY

Archaeologists expressed caution Wednesday about the reported discovery of 40,000-year-old human footprints in central Mexico. If the age of the footprints is verified by scientists outside the discovery team, the find would be a scientific blockbuster, rewriting the story of human migration into the New World.This footprint, claimed to be 40,000-years old, was found near to the city of Puebla. Bournemouth University via AP An international team of archaeologists, led by Silvia Gonzalez of the United Kingdom's Liverpool John Moores University, this week announced the discovery of about 160 ancient human footprints in the floor of an abandoned quarry near the city of Puebla.

The results of five analytical dating techniques indicate the prints are more than 40,000 years old, the team says. A few other archaeological sites have shown that people moved into the New World more than 12,500 years ago. But the footprint dates suggest such a migration occurred far earlier. "We think there were several migration waves into the Americas at different times by different human groups," Gonzalez says in a statement released by the university. Gonzalez says the find suggests Native Americans arrived in the region by boat rather than migrating on foot over a land bridge between Siberia and Alaska during the waning days of a glacial period that lasted from 70,000 to 10,000 years ago."It's big news if they can truly verify the dates," says archaeologist Daniel Rogers of the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C. "But the bottom line is this is still a remarkably early date, which is a source of additional caution."At that time, exotic and huge animals dominated North America. Fearsome dire wolves, saber-tooth cats and the giant short-faced bear, which dwarfed grizzlies, preyed on mammoths, camels and sloths. The predators vanished at the end of the last Ice Age.The researchers say the footprints are indisputably human, displaying arches, toe shapes and proportions right for people 4 feet to 6 feet tall. More than a third of the prints were made by children, they estimate.But one archaeologist who has visited the Mexico site three times, Mike Waters of Texas A&M University in College Station, doubts the marks are truly footprints. "I think what we have here are quarry marks that have weathered into shapes that resemble footprints," he says. "On close inspection, most don't look that good." Further, he says, some of the prints cross layers of ash from different ages, some of which he says are much older than 40,000 years. Waters is investigating a Native American artifact site at a reservoir near the quarry. An additional reason for caution is that the footprint team's results have not been published in a peer-reviewed study, says archaeologist David Hurst

Thomas of the American Museum of Natural History in New York. "That doesn't mean they are wrong, but science by press release won't convince anyone." People using boats had migrated to Australia about 50,000 years ago, so similar travel to North America isn't impossible to imagine, he says. The research team reports it has received a $372,000 grant to continue the search for more footprints buried deeper in the quarry rock. "I think that is the right approach," Waters says. "If they can find prints embedded deeper in the rock, in one layer, that would be more convincing."

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Florida's monster (Skunk Ape) By Kathleen Laufenberg, Tallahassee (FL) Democrat, DEMOCRAT STAFF WRITER Posted on Sun, Aug. 14, 2005

It's big. It's hairy. It stinks. It lurks in the woods - and it's been spotted near Tate's Hell. It's Florida's own monster: the Skunk Ape, known in other parts of the world as Bigfoot,Yeti, the Abominable Snowman and Sasquatch.True believers say the Skunk Ape is real (stop rolling your eyes!). Files at the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission confirm that many people say they've seen one. A few freethinkers hope to spot the legendary creature themselves this fall. That's when Scott Marlowe - a manly man, unafraid to hike into the swamps during the wee hours, when alligators bellow and owls cry - leads an expedition in search of the Skunk Ape, somewhere in the wilds of Florida."We will definitely be roughing it," the 51-year-old from Winter Haven said. "We will be in the wild, and we will be camping..., but we'll also have an RV headquarters to work out of."

Marlowe says he has had two close encounters with Skunk Apes, said to be 7 feet tall and outrageously stinky."I was actually beaned by one," he said of his latest encounter, in June. It happened while he and two Discovery Channel filmmakers were tracking a family of Skunk Apes. (A film about the Skunk Ape later aired as "Animal X" on Discovery.) Marlowe says one of the creatures threw a stick and whopped him on the head, drawing blood. Such are the perils of monster hunting - or, to use a gentler term, cryptozoology: the study of, and search for, creatures such as Bigfoot and the Loch Ness Monster. Marlowe -who has held various jobs, including schoolteacher and computer technician, and is working on a bachelor's degree in computer science - teaches a cryptozoology class at the Florida Keys Community College. Anyone with an Internet connection can take the class, which includes a deep-woods expedition. But before you join a crew of Skunk Ape hunters, know that you risk encountering ticks, snakes and worse - the antics of snorting friends ("You're doing what?") who hoist imaginary glasses to their lips, implying that your judgment is sadly clouded. If you're like Marlowe, you shrug, smile and forge onward. If you're more of a ham, you could borrow a line from the Bard: "There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio, than are dreamt of in your philosophy." Or you could wisely choose to tell no one of your plans. The ape files Before "The X-Files," there were the Skunk Ape files: two fat folders at the state's Wildlife Commission offices in Tallahassee. Not surprisingly, the files (which go back to the 1960s) are full of strange accounts and requests.

One man wrote to say he'd lived with a family of Skunk Apes for six months. Others asked whether they needed special permits to bag one. (The official answer: No, because they don't EXIST! And surely if they did, some wildlife officer would've slapped a radio collar around one's neck by now.) Perhaps the saddest story in the file, though, is the saga of the Green Swamp creature. A wild man was spotted in the swamps of Sumter County in 1990 and 1991. He was finally tracked down and caught by Sheriff Don Page. The swamp man's name was Hu Tu Mei. He was a 39-year-old Taiwanese mariner. He had wandered off unnoticed from Tampa General Hospital's psychiatric ward eight months before his capture in the swamps. According to news reports, he'd apparently survived by eating small wild animals raw and occasionally stealing food and other items from barns and mobile homes. After they treated him to plates of food at the jail, the deputies told the man he'd soon be able to go home to Taiwan. Later that evening, he killed himself by wrapping a belt around his neck. Such a sad ending to the tale of the Green Swamp creature. But it's the only tale in the files that has an ending. The story of the Skunk Ape goes on and on. Why?

"That's one of those things that's always going to be around. I think people need those myths and legends," said Robert Daniels, a recently retired Florida wildlife officer of 27 years. He's seen some strange things in the Panhandle woods, the 52-year-old said, but never a Skunk Ape (also called a Swamp Ape). So, what is the strangest thing he's seen in the woods? That would be a ghost. Daniels said he saw it many years ago, at the Lake Jackson Indian Mounds. But that's another story.

What the ... ?Bill Arnold, on the other hand, has never seen a ghost. But he says he has gotten a good, unexpected look at a Skunk Ape. The longtime owner of Arnold Bicycle Sales & Service Shop in Columbus, Ga., has property in Wakulla County and plans to retire here. So he's often in the area and enjoys going to the beach on St. George Island. He saw a Skunk Ape, he said, on his way to St. George. (And no, he said, he had not been drinking or doing anything else to impair his faculties.) He was on County Road 67, a long, lonely stretch of road that winds near Tate's and cuts through acres of undeveloped land. It was one day about this time last summer, he said, around 6:30 p.m., when he spotted something large and dark crossing the road on two legs. "When I first saw it, I thought it must be a bear," the 52-year-old said. "As I got closer and closer, ... I thought it might be a hunter. A big, hairy hunter."

But then he realized it couldn't be a human, either. It was too big - "probably 8 feet tall" - and it had furry hair "pretty much from top to bottom." He couldn't tell if it was male or female. It had no neck. When it turned to look at his approaching truck, its upper torso turned rather than just its head. It was a big, hairy ape, he said. And then it was gone, disappearing into the woods on the other side. And although he's willing to have his name in the newspaper, he said, "I don't tell a lot of people." He learned quickly it was best not to. "I got a kind of guarded reaction. 'Oh yeah, sure, uh-huh.'" He'd heard the story of the Florida Skunk Ape before his sighting, he said, but never thought much of it. But now, "I believe it more because I feel like I really did see it." Whenever he takes that same road, he's always on the lookout. He keeps a camera ready, just in case. (Which may not help, even if he snaps one. Photos of Skunk Apes abound, from blurry snapshots in grocery tabloids to clear photos of what looks suspiciously like Chewbacca, the Wookiee in the "Star Wars" movies. Wait - maybe what Arnold saw was a Wookiee!)

Making a monkey If you stop in at J.R.'s Aucilla River Store on U.S. Highway 98, across from the Aucilla River Wildlife Management Area, you'll see something that owner Lester Walker Jr. – known to all in this remote area as J.R. - calls a swamp monkey. You'll find the mysterious stuffed creature along with other stuffed wild animals, such as wild boar, bobcats, turkeys and quail. Walker, 54, will spin a yarn to inquiring newcomers that the swamp monkey is a creature he shot after it fell from tall trees into his boat. ("I always keep a 9 millimeter with me," he said matter-of-factly, "'cause down here 911 is a long distance.") But before his patrons leave, he tells them the truth: It's just something he rigged up using "a deer tail turned upside down." Still, his pseudo swamp monkey has sparked plenty of tales about the legendary Skunk Ape.Walker's not a believer: "I've never seen anything like that. Just bears. There's a lot of bears around here." But he just smiles and nods. If he's in the mood, he might share his tale of the strangest creature (other than the humans) he's ever encountered in the Aucilla River woods.

It happened, he said, back in about 1970. "I thought I saw two hogs, and I got out of my truck. I had a 45 with me, and I thought I was ("Gunsmoke" TV Marshal) Matt Dillon with it. I snuck out there to the edge of the bushes." But what he found wasn't a wild boar. "It was a big black cat. This thing was about 60, 70 pounds. I knew not to be messing with something like that." So, quietly, he climbed back in his truck and left. Today, he's still not sure what he saw. And though it may not be a yowzer of a tale, as many Skunk Ape stories are, it's his. And he has a simple but wise philosophy when it comes to swapping tales of Things I Saw in the Swamps:

"I don't mess with your stories, and you don't mess with mine."That's sage advice to all who seek the Florida Skunk Ape.
Contact Reporter Kathleen Laufenberg at (850) 599-2375 or klaufenberg@tallahassee.com.

CHIEF AND NEAL INTERVIEWED

TRACKS IN LATE AUGUST 2004 IN Allegheny NATIONAL FOREST. STATE GAME LAND 29. PENN. #1=IS 17½" LONG. #2=IS 15" LONG #3=IS 11" LONG.

1 2 3

17½" 15" 11"

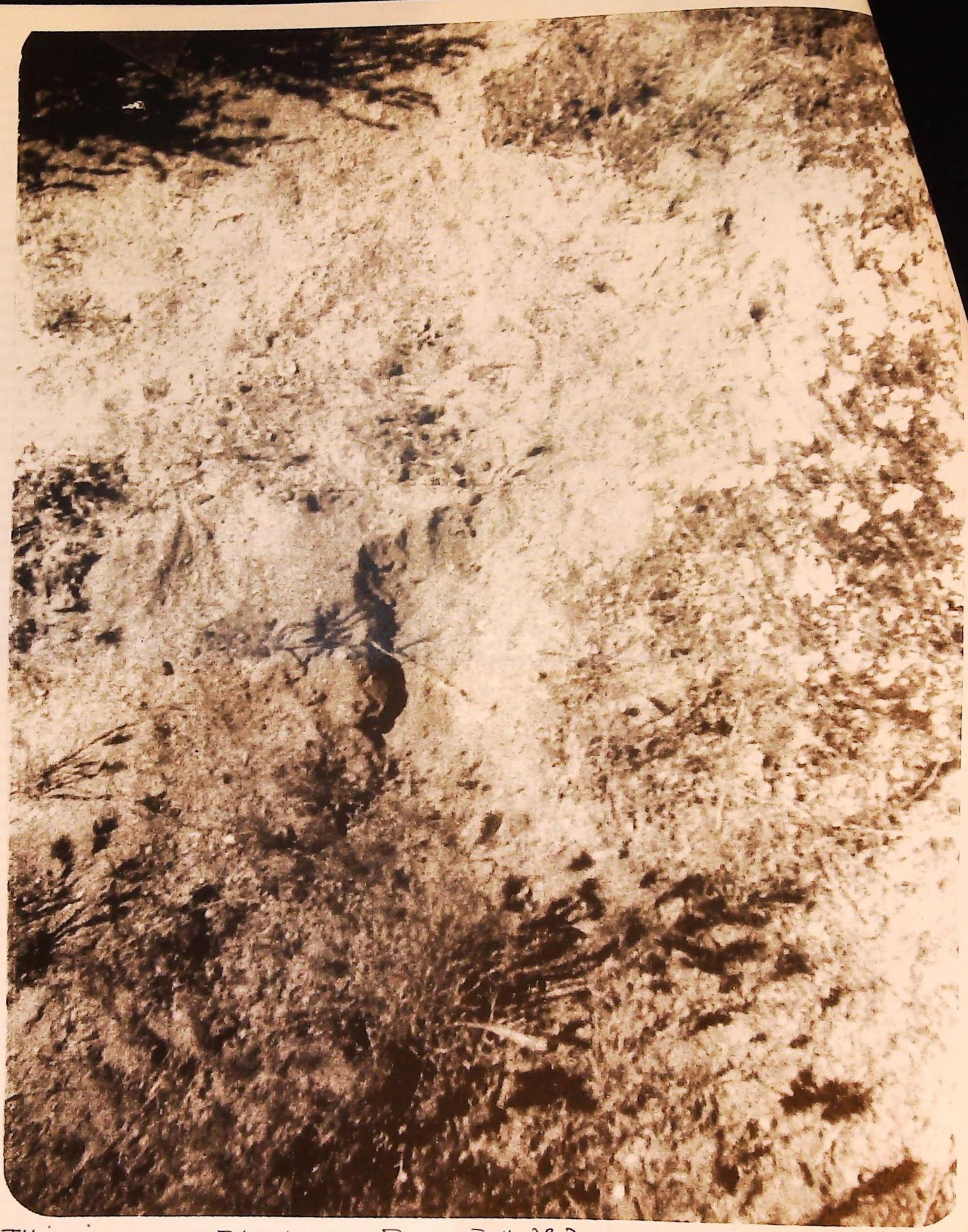
we Also seen BIG Foot cross the old Dirt ROAD, we were coming out of Forest And BIG Foot CROSSED ROAD in one BIG STEP. HE WAS HUGE.

Joe & DOROTHY GUNTHER

SENT IN BY SAM SHERRY

FAR RREN -NXA.

15.



THIS IS ONE OF THE LARGE - SASQUATCH, OR BIGFOOT, (5) TOE'D TRACKS - FROM LEFT FOOT - FOUND BY FRESH PODS OF SMELLY HAIR. TRACK IS VERY LARGE IN SIZE, AND DEEP IN GROUND - HAIR ALL AROUND TRACK - FOUND BY THE DAWN - BIGFOOT RESEARCHER. 7-04 N.AZ.[illegible] 2005

est to tell if it's sasquatch

THE PROVINCE NEWS JULY 22/'05

CREDIT: DEBBIE HYCHA

MYSTERY YUKON HAIR: Biologist to isolate DNA from sample

WHITEHORSE — A University of Alberta scientist is offering to run a DNA test on what some believe is sasquatch hair found in the Yukon.

The sample is heading to Edmonton after a Yukon Environment Department laboratory technician who analyzed the tuft said results suggest it's likely from a bison.

Philip Merchant compared a print of the hair's scale pattern with those of other creatures. The results were not entirely conclusive though, said Dennis Senger, the department's communications co-ordinator.

"[Merchant] is being a scientist," Senger said. "He's not 100-per-cent sure, so he doesn't want to say anything conclusive."

Merchant said there are still many unknowns about the origins of the sample, found at Teslin, near the B.C. border. There is no way of knowing how the sample ended up there — whether it blew there or was placed there.

Dr. David Coltman, associate professor of biology at U of A, contacted Merchant this week and offered to do a DNA analysis on the hair.

The test will involve extracting DNA from cells in the roots of the hairs.

"If it truly is sasquatch DNA, it will probably not match anything," Coltman said. "It should most closely resemble human or gorilla."

The results should be complete within a week, he said.

The investigation was sparked by a sasquatch sighting about a week ago, when up to nine witnesses claimed to have seen a creature roaming about in the woods near Teslin. A footprint and the hair sample were found.

About a year ago, two locals also said they spotted a sasquatch-like figure as it crossed their path early one morning.

— Canadian Press

Philip Merchant with the hair sample in Whitehorse. — CP

TOM AND CONSUELA COUSINO
IN NORTH CALIF RECENTLY

ARTIST ROB JOHNSON
SENDS US A POST CARD
ON NEXT PAGE

Sasquatch soiree has residents of tiny Y

THE VANCOUVER SUN JULY 20, 2005

Some swear a bigfoot came calling one quiet night, but others aren't so sure

BY NATHAN VANDERKLIPPE

TESLIN, Yukon — It was a quiet night in Teslin when the woods began to crackle and the dogs started to howl.

Melvin Harper heard it, and saw a figure flitting near a neighbour's light post, then through a forested island next to log houses in this Yukon town of 400.

"It was something big, about eight feet tall [2.4 metres]. It's black, hairy muscular. It was huge," he said. "He was like teasing us, making noises in the bush, coming back and forth."

"It was like a sasquatch," said Tom Dickson, who also saw the creature. "Like how you see it on TV, how they advertise it — the same image. You can't see no eyes, nothing, just black, but it was moving pretty fast. It was a shocking feeling, like if you see a bear."

Roger Smarch heard it, too, and went to look the next morning. It's at least the third sighting of a bush creature in Teslin in a year, leading locals to surmise that perhaps a sasquatch — or a family of them — has migrated from more typical haunts in northern California and the Interior of British Columbia.

Looking in the woods near the place where the creature was last heard, Smarch found crushed meadow flowers and small trees snapped in half more than two metres up their trunks. And he discovered a track, more than 30 centimetres long and printed deep into the mud.

"I think it's bigfoot," he said, as he pulled back the rubber mat and wooden crate that he placed over the print to protect it, more than a week after the strange night. Some of the town's hunters have said it looks like a print left by a moose that slipped in the mud, but Smarch won't hear of it.

"It's not a bear, not a moose. It's definitely something," he said.

Smarch also found something else, a tuft of dark chocolate-

Yukon town buzzing

CREDIT: DEBBIE HYCHA

coloured hair on the forest floor that he says was left behind by the creature.

On Tuesday morning, Philip Merchant picked apart the tuft of hair in his lab at the Yukon Environment Department, measuring it and inspecting it beneath a microscope.

The hair isn't hollow, ruling out moose and caribou. It's too long to be horse, and the sample also includes a downy underfur, which rules out humans — and perhaps other two-footed creatures.

"If underwool is a bovid, cervid thing in mammals then we probably can rule out primate," said Merchant, a wildlife technician. "But I don't know. Are sasquatches primates?"

That leaves a few options: grizzly bear, muskox and bison.

Merchant plans to run a few tests on the hair over the next few days, but it may be impossible to know its origin for certain without DNA testing — and at this point, the Yukon government isn't exactly eager to spend taxpayer dollars on the search for bigfoot.

Edmonton Journal

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